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Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-89-139

Friday

21 July 1989

Daily Report

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FBIS-EAS-89-139

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Japan

Uno Asserts 3 Percent Tax Rate To Remain

OW2007112589 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT
20 Jul 89

[Text] Otsu, Shiga Pref., July 20 KYODO—Prime Minister Sosuke Uno said on Thursday that the government will never change the 3 percent consumption tax rate.

Uno, making the pledge during an election campaign speech in Kusatsu near here, said the government will maintain this position with the approaching aged society in mind.

Both Uno and his predecessor Noboru Takeshita have so far said that they will keep the present 3 percent consumption tax rate while they are in power.

The consumption tax, imposed on all types of goods and services on April 1, is the main source of unpopularity among voters for LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] candidates in Sunday's House of Councillors election.

Uno told a news conference on Thursday that the government and LDP will review the consumption tax but stopped short of saying specifically how and what form it would take.

Concludes Campaign Tour

OW2007113689 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT
20 Jul 89

[Text] Otsu, July 20 KYODO—Prime Minister Sosuke Uno's first and probably last stumping swing ended Thursday as he left hundreds of cheering supporters in his own constituency of Shiga Prefecture with just three days left to Sunday's election for the House of Councillors.

In his three speeches in Shiga Prefecture, Uno concentrated on appealing for the need to sustain the unpopular 3 percent consumption tax and attempting to convince the public that losing power to opposition forces would lead Japan away from prosperity.

Local Liberal Democratic Party sympathizers, with conspicuously few young people, greeted Uno at all three sites on his first homecoming since he became prime minister 77 days ago to support the 72-year-old LDP incumbent running on the LDP ticket.

But women again staged demonstrations denouncing Uno for his alleged extramarital affair with a geisha and demanding his resignation, as they had done in Osaka on Wednesday when Uno made his first stumping appearance in the constituency of Chief Cabinet Secretary Masajuro Shiokawa.

Shiga is one of the 26 single-seat constituencies which have traditionally been a stronghold of the LDP.

The three-term upper house LDP incumbent from Shiga, Kakuzo Kawamoto, however, is struggling against the new candidate from Rengo, which is backed by Japan's 5.5 million-member leading labor union and four non-communist opposition parties.

Itsumi Dehara, head of the Rengo electoral campaign office, said although the race is very tight, the candidate Eiichi Nakamura has a fair chance of winning because there is intense public anger over the LDP's enforcement of the consumption tax in April.

But Dehara added the timing of Uno's homecoming, in the closing days of the election campaign, could produce a result in favor of the LDP.

Uno, meanwhile, apologized at the start of every speech for LDP involvement in the Recruit scandal but insisted the newly introduced tax system would bring in revenue of 5.6 trillion yen to be used for welfare, especially for the weak and aged.

Uno also announced that the government would never change the 3 percent level regardless of the expected rise in the costs of welfare.

He also said that except for Japan all seven major industrial nations participating in the July 14-16 Paris summit have successfully introduced similar tax systems and said Japan, as the world's leading economic power, should conform with the others.

Plans Speech on 22 July

OW2107075389 Tokyo KYODO in English 0530 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Sosuke Uno will not take to the streets on the closing day Saturday of the 18-day campaign for Sunday's House of Councillors election, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) officials said Friday.

Uno, president of the LDP, will instead make a speech at a ceremony marking the end of the campaign, to be held in the garden of the LDP Headquarters Saturday evening, the officials said.

Uno, who became embroiled in a geisha womanizing scandal soon after becoming prime minister on June 2, did not take to the streets while all the other political party leaders crisscrossed the country from July 5 to drum up voter support.

Uno visited Osaka and his home ground of Shiga Prefecture on Wednesday and Thursday, his first and last stumping swings.

He made a brief [as received] from the top of a campaign car in his own constituency of Shiga Prefecture on Thursday.

Party Leaders' Remarks on Upper House Election
OW2007150289 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 19 Jul 89

[Text] Prime Minister Uno, who returned from the Paris summit yesterday, visited Osaka today on his first canvassing trip for the upper house election. At a news conference, he stressed that he would responsibility for modifying the consumption tax.

[Begin Uno recording] Many people are still perplexed by and doubtful about the consumption tax. Many housewives think that the amount added for the consumption tax should be included in the price of the item, while others say that the consumption tax might lead to opportunistic price increases. To dispel all these fears, I would like to take responsibility for modifying the consumption tax. [end recording]

Touching on an opinion within the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] that the government should exempt perishable foods from the consumption tax, Prime Minister Uno said that he could not make specific, concrete comments on this point. He also said that he would listen humbly to the opinions of the people and the LDP members.

Some members of the ruling party now strongly express the view that the party should present to the public a specific proposal for revising the consumption tax during the upper house election campaign. However, the Finance Ministry thinks that caution is necessary. With this situation in mind, Prime Minister Uno expressed the position that he would take responsibility for modifying the consumption tax, but explained that specific measures to achieve this end would be entrusted to studies on the part of the government and the LDP.

This was Prime Minister Uno's first canvassing tour for the upper house election. He did not make a stumping tour for this election, saying that he was busy preparing for the Paris summit.

After his news conference, Prime Minister Uno attended the LDP political meeting in Higashi, Osaka. Speaking before more than 5,000 people, he appealed for support for the LDP.

[Begin Uno recording] In the past 40 years, we have made great efforts to build a peaceful nation. During this period, the people have forged ahead only under the flag of a free society. [end recording]

There were voices of protest against Mr Uno outside the hall where he spoke. Women belonging to citizens' groups and miniparties carried placards protesting his alleged affairs with women. Prime Minister Uno is to stump in Shiga Prefecture, his native place, tomorrow. However, he will not speak on the streets as in Osaka.

Meanwhile, former Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru, who is also chairman of the LDP's Takeshita faction, made a speech in Ogaki, Gifu Prefecture, today. Touching on Prime Minister Uno's intention to review the consumption tax, Mr Kanemaru criticized Uno's position, saying that his view was too lukewarm politically and that the ruling party should make a specific proposal on the revision of the consumption tax as soon as possible. In his speech in Gifu, Mr Kanemaru touched on an incident in Shizuoka Prefecture the day before yesterday in which the candidate supported by the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] stopped a Shinkan Line train to suit his stumping needs. He said that this was indeed a terrible act—an act of dictatorship reminiscent of the Tiananmen incident in China. He criticized the act, saying that Japan should not become such a country.

On the other hand, leaders of the JSP, the Japan Communist Party [JCP], and the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] also held news conferences while stumping in various places. JSP Chairperson Doi severely criticized the ruling LDP's statement yesterday, saying that it reflected the LDP's arrogant attitude. Miss Doi held a news conference in Fukushima today. She said that the LDP has not reflected at all on the Recruit scandal and the consumption tax.

The LDP said in a statement yesterday that the country would be thrown into great confusion if the Socialist Party won political leadership at the upper house on Sunday. Miss Doi said that democracy could not be maintained as long as the LDP adheres to the position that only the LDP is qualified to have power. She also said that there is no need to hold an election with this attitude.

JCP Chairman Fuwa told reporters in Osaka today that he and the Communist Party will continue to work for a coalition government after the election. Mr Fuwa said that parliamentary management has been dominated by what he calls closed-door politics, which have excluded the Communist Party. He said that if this exclusion strategy is not eliminated, the LDP will continue to govern the country against the wishes of the people. Mr Fuwa also said that a JCP proposal to form a coalition government based on opposition to the consumption tax is not connected with the coming election. He said that he will continue to pursue the idea after the election as well.

DSP Chairman Nagasue said in his news conference in Kobe that his party will submit to the Diet a consumption tax abolition bill after the election, together with the JSP, Komeito, and the United Socialist Party. Mr Nagasue said that another bill about securing a new source of revenue to replace the lost consumption tax revenue will also be submitted jointly by these parties. The DSP chairman said that a second bill will be needed, because simply abolishing the consumption tax will not solve the problem.

Hashimoto, secretary general of the ruling LDP, said today that the DSP might ask to join the LDP to form a coalition government if the LDP fails to retain a majority in the upper house election. Mr Nagasue said that the LDP is saying this simply because it wants to use the DSP in the face of a projected defeat in the election. He added that if the LDP is asking for cooperation in parliamentary management, the DSP will, of course, discuss matters. He said that his party has never refused to hold discussions in the past.

Poll Predicts LDP To Lose Upper House Majority

OW2007233789 Tokyo KYODO in English 2301 GMT
20 Jul 89

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of Prime Minister Sosuke Uno is almost certain to lose its majority in the House of Councillors in Sunday's triennial election for half the seats in the 252-seat second chamber, a KYODO NEWS SERVICE nationwide survey shows.

The Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the No. 1 opposition force, is gaining momentum and is likely to double its strength, the survey says.

But there will be no immediate chance for the opposition camp to oust the LDP from power because the more powerful 512-seat House of Representatives is still under the LDP's overwhelming control, political analysts said.

In the event of a major defeat for the LDP, the analysts said, LDP members will call for Uno's resignation as prime minister and party president.

If the LDP loses its majority in the upper house, it will have difficulty in passing bills, except for those concerning the state budget and international treaties, through the Diet.

The LDP will be forced to seek support from part of the opposition camp to facilitate business in the Diet, the analysts said.

The LDP has held power uninterruptedly since its founding in 1955 through the merger of two conservative parties.

The opposition parties are expected to step up their pressure on the LDP and government to dissolve the lower chamber for a general election, the analysts said. The KYODO poll, taken on July 15 and 16, a week before the election, covered 48,528 out of Japan's 90.3 million voters, asking them which party and candidate they will support in the election. Of the total, 37,312, or 76.9 percent, responded.

The LDP, with 66 of its 139 seats in the House being contested, is almost certain to lose about 30 of them, according to the survey.

The strength of the LDP in the upper house is expected to decline to around 109, far below the simple majority of 127, according to the results of the poll.

The JSP, led by Takako Doi, the country's first woman head of a major political party, will most likely seize around 45 seats, sharply up from the 22 of its seats up for election.

With 20 seats not up for election, the JSP's new strength is expected to rise to around 65, against its pre-election total of 42.

The poll shows that three other opposition parties, Komeito, the Japan Communist Party (JCP) and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), are unlikely to increase their strength.

The survey results also show that LDP candidates face bitter criticism for the April 1 imposition of the unpopular 3 percent consumption tax and the ruling party's involvement in the Recruit influence-peddling scandal.

Government policy to promote liberalization of farm produce imports is unpopular among farmers, who were one of the LDP's traditional pillars of support.

Uno's alleged involvement in an extramarital affair with a geisha also hurt the LDP, the poll shows. An upper house election is called once every three years to elect half of the 252 seats in the upper house.

At stake are 126 seats, of which 50 will be decided according to the nationwide proportional representation system and 76 will be elected from a total of 47 electoral districts.

A record 670 people are running. Of the total, women candidates number 135, also a record high.

There are 41 parties fielding candidates.

The LDP has put up 78 candidates, the biggest number fielded by a single party, followed by the JCP's 70, the JSP's 54, the DSP's 25 and Komeito's 22.

The JSP originally fielded 55 candidates but dropped one of them, Kijun Sakurai, after he had a Shinkansen bullet train make an unscheduled stop during an election campaign swing.

A total of 36 minor parties fielded 377 candidates in electoral districts and under the proportional representation system.

In addition, 43 independents are running in electoral constituencies.

Business Leaders Caution Against Hasty Tax Review
*OW2007110789 Tokyo KYODO in English 0839 GMT
20 Jul 89*

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—A hasty review of the controversial consumption tax would cause confusion, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Rokuro Ishikawa said Thursday.

Ishikawa told a press conference that the demand for tax revision was a "sensational" movement.

At least "one round" should be devoted to observing what is right and wrong with the newly imposed tax, he said.

"Those who oppose the unpopular tax seem to exaggerate only its demerits," Ishikawa said.

He added 96 percent of Japan's businessmen had no problem adding the 3 percent tax, while 92 percent believe the new tax had already been accepted by most Japanese, according to a survey conducted by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Asked about economic prospects following the upper house election, Ishikawa said the political future would have some impact on Japanese business.

He said a further decline in the value of the yen, which has fallen due merely to the country's political uncertainty rather than because of economic fundamentals, would tarnish Japan's excellent business performance.

But he added: "The higher yen is favorable, now that trade accounts for less than 10 percent of Japan's gross national product (GNP)."

He also expressed concern over dwindling trading volume in the stock market in recent months.

"Results of the upper house election might spur more traders away from the market," he said.

Ishikawa said the chamber also reported, in an earlier meeting with Director General of the Economic Planning Agency Michio Ochi, that a labor shortage was pushing up wages.

The chamber also asked Ochi for governmental assistance in vitalizing small and medium-sized enterprises, which were experiencing hardship caused by the drastic change of the Japanese economy, he added.

The Japanese distribution system, which foreign countries have bitterly criticized as a trade barrier, must be partially reformed, Ishikawa said.

Uno Tells Envoys of Support for Poland, Hungary
*OW2107075289 Tokyo KYODO in English 0704 GMT
21 Jul 89*

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Sosuke Uno told summit nation ambassadors to Japan Friday Japan will support reforms in Poland and Hungary, a Foreign Ministry official said.

During a 90-minute luncheon at the prime minister's official residence, French Ambassador Bernard Dorin asked Uno about Japan's stance on support for reforms in the two East European countries.

Uno was quoted as saying that U.S. President George Bush, who had visited the two countries immediately before the summit, told him there have been dramatic changes in the two countries.

The prime minister said while Japan is a country in Asia and far from East Europe, it will cooperate for economic reforms in Poland and Hungary.

Uno also said Japan will be able to teach management know-how when state-owned enterprises there are privatized.

Uno said Kimio Fujita, chief of the cabinet councillors' office on external affairs, will visit Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, East Germany and the Soviet Union in August.

The leaders of seven industrial nations agreed at the Paris summit last week to extend support for economic and political reforms in Poland and Hungary.

U.S. Ambassador Michael Armacost, British Ambassador John Whitehead, West German Charge d'Affaires Rolf-Eberhard Jung, Italian Charge d'Affaires Dino Volpicelli, Canadian Charge d'Affaires Stephen Heeney and EC Charge d'Affaires Pierre del Grande were among those attending the luncheon.

Uno Meets With French Industry Minister
*OW2107070889 Tokyo KYODO in English 0617 GMT
21 Jul 89*

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—French Prime Minister Michel Rocard has called for more Japanese industrial investment in France, Japanese Government officials said Friday.

French Minister of Industry and Territorial Development Roger Fauroux delivered Rocard's request during a meeting with Prime Minister Sosuke Uno.

Uno asked Fauroux to help improve the environment for more Japanese investments, the officials said.

Fauroux, here on a four-day visit since Tuesday, told Uno that he hopes to raise the level of cooperative ties between Japan and France.

Minister Affirms Import, Environment Goals

OW1807050189 Tokyo KYODO in English 0358 GMT 18 Jul 89

[Text] Tokyo, July 18 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Seiroku Kajiyama said Tuesday Japan's Government will make drastic efforts to boost imports and to protect the global environment to keep the promises it made at the Paris seven-nation summit that ended Sunday.

Kajiyama, who returned to Tokyo earlier in the morning from Paris, said, however, concrete steps to be undertaken have yet to be discussed among government ministries and agencies.

While urging "deficit nations" to put greater efforts into exports, Kajiyama voiced the need for Japan to arrange its import systems at home in such areas as licensing and tax treatment, to deal with possible confusion resulting from increased imports.

Japan should vitalize regional industries for an equal distribution of goods and services nationwide and thereby avoid a heavy concentration in the Tokyo metropolitan area, he said.

On the global environment, the trade minister said the government will come up with what measures it would pursue within this year at the earliest.

Environmental problems, such as pollution, global warming and the use of "ozone-damaging" chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), will be studied in detail, according to the trade minister.

"It is essential, however, such problems are promptly dealt with before they get out of hand," Kajiyama said.

On Japan-U.S. structural talks to be launched in September, Kajiyama stressed they would be held outside of the retaliatory "super 301" clause of the 1988 U.S. trade act.

Kajiyama said the U.S. side wanted to issue a report on such talks in March or April next year, apparently conscious of the second round of a U.S. designation of "priority practices" based on "super 301" provisions next May.

"Japan cannot address its structural problems just because of external pressures," Kajiyama said.

Structural reforms should be tackled for the betterment of the standard of living of Japanese consumers, he added.

Defense Agency To Purchase Antisubmarine Ships *OW2107044589 Tokyo KYODO in English 0410 GMT 21 Jul 89*

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Japanese Defense Agency officials on Friday announced plans to procure two more antisubmarine ships—doubling the number called for originally to four—and augmenting U.S. naval strategy in the region.

Each vessel is expected to cost 14 billion yen.

The two new craft will be equipped with advanced sonar apparatus capable of sensing and collecting submarine noise for analysis, agency officials said.

The mid-term defense buildup plan initiated in 1985 by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone originally sought two new ships outfitted with antisubmarine warfare equipment. One of these two ships is currently under construction and work on the other will begin next year.

The U.S. has urged Japan to expand its share of the defense burden in the Pacific region by upgrading its naval forces.

Sonar information collected by the ships can be analyzed through an onshore processing system to identify the type of submarine and its movements.

The information gathered is expected to be fed into a worldwide U.S. submarine-tracking network, though processing will be done at the joint U.S.-Japan Antisubmarine Warfare Center at the U.S. naval facility at Yokosuka.

The U.S. maintains a fixed undersea surveillance network aimed at tracking Soviet submarine movements across the globe.

Sonar information from U.S. military craft is already fed into the system.

No Radioactivity Found at H-Bomb Site

OW2107075489 Tokyo KYODO in English 0657 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—A panel of government appointed radioactivity experts declared Friday that the seabed area where a U.S. hydrogen bomb sank 24 years ago is free of radioactive pollution.

The Oceanic Environment Radioactivity Data Assessment Commission presented a final report on a two-month water sampling study to the Science and Technology Agency on Friday, agency officials said.

The commission launched an extensive probe for radioactive contamination after a U.S. environmental group revealed that the U.S. aircraft carrier "Ticonderoga" lost a hydrogen bomb in the western Pacific at a point about 320 kilometers east of Okinawa in December 1965.

The commission found that "no unusual level of radioactivity" traceable to the H-bomb was detected in the sea area, the report said. A provisional report of the study was released two weeks ago.

The U.S. Government has contended that any radioactive material released through structural failure of the bomb would have dissolved within 30 days after the accident.

Radioactive material would settle on the ocean floor and would be buried by additional sedimentation over time, the U.S. Government told Japan earlier this month.

The commission, created last May following an uproar in Japan about possible radioactive contamination, conducted an analysis of water samples taken at various depths of the area last month.

The panel also said they found no traces of radioactivity in fish or shellfish caught in the area.

JAL Reports Imports From China Increase
*OW2007113789 Tokyo KYODO in English 1008 GMT
20 Jul 89*

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Japan Air Lines [JAL] Co. announced on Thursday it handled 407 tons of imports from China in June, up 26 percent over the same month a year earlier, despite the political turmoil in that country.

The national flag carrier attributed the sharp increase to strong demand in Japan for textiles, fish and vegetables from China.

In contrast, JAL's export cargo to China halved to 84 tons last month, as a result of temporary suspension of handling of such cargo in Japan.

Chinese Students Use Forged Travel Papers
*OW1807122389 Tokyo KYODO in English 0916 GMT
18 Jul 89*

[Text] Tokyo, July 18 KYODO—The number of Chinese students trying to fly to the United States and other countries by using forged passports and visas is increasing, Justice Ministry sources said Tuesday.

The sources said immigration officials at Narita Airport east of Tokyo have spotted 20 Chinese students during the past six months who have attempted to leave Japan with forged travel documents.

Japanese authorities suspect the existence of a Taiwanese group forging such travel documents for Chinese students studying in Japan but wishing to go to third countries.

At the end of May, two Chinese students who arrived the day before on student visas told officials at Narita Airport that they were returning home.

The students displayed Chinese passports but the officials found out that once the students passed immigration, they were planning to go to Paraguay with forged Taiwanese passports and false Paraguayan visas, the sources said.

Other Chinese students have been caught for using false travel documents and tickets to try to convince immigration officials that they were going back home.

They confessed that once they passed immigration, they would go to the United States or Argentina with different plane tickets and forged travel documents, the sources said.

According to the sources, some Chinese students have said they bought an air ticket and forged passport for about half a million yen a person from a Taiwanese agent in Tokyo, adding that they would have paid another 1 million yen to the agent if they succeeded in reaching a third country.

The sources also said 10 Chinese students during the past three months attempted to reenter Japan with forged Argentine passports after they had left Japan with Chinese passports.

About 28,000 Chinese students came to Japan with student visas last year, according to the Justice Ministry.

The ministry has tightened controls on Chinese students' visa applications, as an increasing number of students are apparently coming to Japan to work, the sources added.

Students at Language School Missing
*OW2007080389 Tokyo KYODO in English 0709 GMT
20 Jul 89*

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido Pref., July 20 KYODO—Almost half of the Chinese students registered at a Japanese language school in the nearby town of Akan have disappeared, school officials said Thursday.

Officials said 16 Chinese students were unaccounted for as of Wednesday, some leaving behind letters saying they were going to Tokyo in search of work.

The 35-student school which started classes in late June, required some 420,000 yen in entrance and six-month class fees, the equivalent of five years' average earnings in China.

The school forbade students from taking part-time jobs during the first three months of classes so they could focus on their studies, and recommended students have about 100,000 yen on hand for living expenses.

"I'm sorry things did not proceed ideally. I plan to change things so the students, who have spent a lot of money getting to Japan, can continue their studies," said the school's director.

Two students disappeared on July 2, telling officials they were going shopping. On July 12, one more student left, followed by some 13 students between July 16 and 18.

The school has received word from two of the missing students, the other 14 being unaccounted for.

North Korea

North Calls for Third Round Talks in August
SK2107083989 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1459 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—The North side's delegation to the preliminary talks for North-South high-level political and military talks in a statement July 20 says: We, out of the [word indistinct] of important mission to realise dialogue and detente, call for holding the third round of the preliminary talks for the abovesaid talks at the end of August at the "House of Peace" in the South side's portion of Panmunjom as already agreed upon.

The South Korean side must no more ignore the patience and magnanimity of our side nor avoid dialogue to arrange North-South high-level political and military talks, the statement stresses, [word indistinct].

The South Korean side gave no word of reply to our side's proposal to hold the preliminary talks for nearly three months and sent a reply belatedly on July 10, saying it is "not timely" to hold the talks. This is an improper act of giving up the responsibility as a partner of the talks. [Words indistinct] our contact and dialogue with figures of various circles of South Korea who desire reunification, the South Korean authorities are trying to make it a pretext to refuse the dialogue but such nonsensical arguments cannot justify their wrong stand in putting off dialogue and [word indistinct] confrontation.

It is clear to everyone that opening the door and meeting with each other by the North and the South is beneficial to [word indistinct] and reunification.

If the North and the South are to achieve reconciliation and reunification, contact, dialogue and travel must be preceded, above all, and dialogue and visits between individuals must be realised along with dialogue between parliaments and between authorities.

It is an absurd political fraud to stigmatize with the phaseology of "target of political operation", "internal disturbance" and "overthrow of the system".

Whoever may be [word indistinct] of the North and the South having contact and dialogue for national reunification, it is a fair and square patriotic activity. To describe it as political operation is a separatist act to suppress those who have contact and dialogue with us as "spies" and whip up North-South confrontation.

Contact and travel are unavoidable for cooperation and exchange either if it should be [word indistinct] as a danger of "internal disturbance" and "overthrow of the system", what the dialogue should be held for is that are they going to do with reunification? [sentence as received]

To argue that some people are not allowed to have contact and dialogue, being branded as a target of blockade and suppression, while others can have dialogue without restriction, and that someone's dialogue is intended to "overthrow the system" while other's not, clearly shows the self-opinionated, dual attitude of the South Korean authorities toward dialogue.

If contact and dialogue between figures of various circles in the North and the South poses a threat of "internal disturbance" and "overthrow of system," we wonder why they brought forth the "July 7 declaration" allowing "free visits between all people including politicians, businessmen, pressmen, religionists and students".

What the South Korean authorities really seek in suspending even the dialogue between the authorities and totally blocking dialogue, itself, is to justify their suppression of the South Korean patriotic democratic forces aspiring after reunification by aggravating the North-South confrontation.

The behaviour of the South Korean authorities who are blocking dialogue and aggravating confrontation at a time when dialogue and detente are ardently needed [word indistinct] but be [word indistinct] an unpardonable treacherous act challenging the [word indistinct] of the nation and going against reunification.

The South Korean side must look squarely at the trend of the times and come out to the negotiating table without delay, opening the door of dialogue, instead of closing it.

South's Security Meeting With U.S. Condemned
SK2107054489 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0433 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 21 (KCNA)—A "joint statement" came after the "annual Security Council meeting" of the United States and South Korea which was held in Washington on July 17 with the attendance of the U.S. defence secretary and the South Korean puppet defence minister.

In a nutshell, the Washington meeting was a sinister aggressive confab between master and servant for the permanent occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and acceleration of preparations for a war of aggression against the northern half of Korea.

At the confab, U.S. Defence Secretary Cheney laid stress on the "continued presence of the U.S. troops in South Korea" under the pretext of non-existent "threat of Southward invasion", spelling out a preposterous sophism that "security" of South Korea is necessary "for the security of the United States". He went the length of putting down this in the "joint statement." And the South Korean puppet defence minister pleaded for the permanent presence of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces in South Korea and promised his master to increase the share of burden of South Korea in the maintenance of the U.S. imperialist occupationist forces.

Through the confab the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique hatched up a series of sinister plots to step up preparations for a war against the North.

It was verified by the fact that they discussed the matters of continuing the "Team Spirit" joint war game, a nuclear war rehearsal, under the cloak of "improving the defence capabilities", reinforcing the aggression forces in South Korea and "jointly studying and developing" new military techniques, which were specified in the "joint statement."

By "declaring again powerful support" to the "northern diplomacy" of the traitor No Tae-u, the U.S. imperialists revealed their foolish design to disorganise and alienate the socialist countries and isolate our republic.

All these facts clearly show that the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u puppet clique want only division, confrontation and war, not the peace and reunification of Korea.

Public Said to Denounce U.S. War 'Scheme'

*SK2107112789 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1031 GMT 21 Jul 89*

[Text] Pyongyang July 21 (KCNA)—The broad world public bitterly denounces the U.S. imperialists' scheme to provoke a nuclear war in Korea, expressing deep concern over it.

The Iranian paper TEHRAN TIMES said:

The military strategy of the U.S. imperialists seeking world supremacy is aimed at swallowing up not only the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, but all other Asian countries including socialist countries.

The MALAGASY NEWS AGENCY said:

The United States has turned South Korea into the biggest nuclear forward base four times the NATO area in the density of nuclear deployment and it is hastening preparations for a nuclear war. Now over 1,000 pieces of U.S.-made nuclear weapons of all types are deployed in South Korea.

The Bulgarian magazine "IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS IN THE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS" said:

Many "F-16" fighter-bombers capable of nuclear delivery are deployed in South Korea at present. They are for attacking the DPRK and other socialist countries any moment.

The general secretary of the Arab Jurists Union said:

Openly threatening that they would use nuclear weapons in case a war breaks out in Korea, the U.S. imperialists are stepping up preparations for a large-scale nuclear war in accordance with the plan they have already worked out.

In case a war breaks out on the Korean peninsula, it will immediately be a nuclear war and will expand into a global thermonuclear war beyond the boundary of Korea.

The appeal addressed to the governments, parliaments, political parties and public organisations of all the countries in the world and international organisations which was adopted at an enlarged meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea said:

The U.S. scheme to provoke a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula can never be tolerated. If the United States truly wants detente and peace on the Korean peninsula, it should respond at an early date to the tripartite talks put forward by the DPRK in response to the aspiration and demand of the world people and show good faith by stopping the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises in South Korea and withdrawing its forces and nuclear weapons there.

Rene Paul Delpeuch [as received], president of the French institute for the national independence and non-alignment, said:

The U.S. Forces' occupation of South Korea is the fundamental factor of the growing tension on the Korean peninsula. We strongly demand that the United States take a step to withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons unconditionally from South Korea.

Youth Delegations Denounce U.S.

*SK2007103489 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1009 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—Members of youth and student delegations and guests of honor from various countries who had participated in the 13th WFYS [World Festival of Youth and Students], toured Panmunjom.

At Panmunjom the guests, unable to repress their indignation at the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists to obstruct Korea's reunification, shouted "U.S. forces, get out of South Korea at once!", "Korea is one!", "Long live one reunified Korea!" and other slogans.

Amar Bentoumi, secretary general of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, said that the U.S. imperialists' moves obstructing Korea's reunification are a grave threat to peace on the Korean peninsula and the rest of Asia.

The head of the youth delegation of Chad stressed that outside interference must be terminated in Korea and she be a reunified state at all costs.

Luis Alberto Berero, a press figure of Peru, stated that the United States must stop its military provocations and get out of South Korea at once taking along all its nuclear weapons.

Korea should be reunified without fail in accordance with the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo advanced by President Kim Il-song, he stressed.

The head of the Bolivian delegation said: With no machinations can the U.S. imperialists subdue the Korean people struggling for the reunification of the country.

Papers Comment on No Tae-u's Cabinet Reshuffle

*SK2107055289 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0438 GMT 21 Jul 89*

["For More Heinous Bayonet-Brandishing"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang July 21 (KCNA)—Papers here today comment on the "shakeup" of the puppet administration the traitor No Tae-u staged on July 19 on the pretext of "building lasting stability" and "establishing law-governed order."

NODONG SINMUN in a signed commentary brands the "cabinet reshuffle" by the traitor No as a move to strengthen the system, that is, to reorganize the power structure with more thorough-paced associates, continue to follow the line of fascism and treachery, division and war and further strengthen the policy of confrontation against the DPRK.

The news analyst says:

The "cabinet reshuffle" is an offspring of the ever worsening crisis of the fascist rule, and it is aimed at carrying on the anti-communist fascist crackdown more heinously under the name of "stability" and "order" and thus maintaining and prolonging the military dictatorial power which is now tottering in face of the anti-U.S. independence and reunification movement of patriotic students and democratic forces and their anti-"government" struggle.

This is well illustrated by the fact that through the "shakeup" the traitor No changed the "security planning board director," "home minister" and other bosses of anti-communist fascist suppressive tools and the "minister of labour," the very domain of intensified labour disputes.

However desperately the traitor No may try to maintain the dictatorial power, reinforcing the anti-communist fascist ruling system with his villainous confidants, it is a futile attempt.

A signed commentary of MINJU CHOSON notes that although the No group is trying hard to find a way out in cracking down upon the people and stepping up separatist moves, it will only give rise to strong resistance of the people. The traitor No must step down as demanded by the people, it stresses.

White Paper Issued on 29 June Declaration

*SK2806155289 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1508 GMT 28 Jun 89*

[Text] Pyongyang June 28 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland Tuesday made public a white paper disclosing the truth behind "realisation of democratic policy" in South Korea in connection with the lapse of two years since the traitor No Tae-u's announcement of "June 29 declaration."

The lengthy white paper proved with irrefutable facts that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean rulers, afraid of the massive June popular uprising against the military fascist rule, announced the "June 29 declaration" as if to realise "democracy," but it was a hypocrisy and South Korea has been all the more fascistized.

The white paper said:

The present "government" of South Korea is little different from the former dictatorial "government." The then "Security Planning Board," "Security Forces Command" and "police headquarters" and other repressive tools are left as they are and "National Security Law," "Public Security Law," "Public Protection Law" and other fascist laws are still in force and principal officials of the "Fifth Republic" are again playing the leading role of the "Sixth Republic."

The South Korean newspaper TONG-A ILBO said the No Tae-u "government" is little different from the Chon Tu-hwan "government," because No Tae-u, who was the mastermind of the "December 12 army purge" and the second man of the former "government," took over the "government" from Chon Tu-hwan.

In defiance of the strong demand of South Korean students and public circles for "eradication of the scandals of the Fifth Republic," a probe into the Kwangju incident and the punishment of the principal culprits, the traitor No Tae-u tries to cover up these matters because he himself is an accomplice in the cases and a dictator like Chon Tu-hwan.

Each time something happened and people rose in struggle in South Korea, No Tae-u issued "emergency alert order," "extraordinary emergency alert order," "top emergency duty order" and other kinds of repressive orders one after another and mobilized large armed forces to block the struggle of people for social independence and democratization [word indistinct] reunification with the "initial-stage blockade" operations wholesale round-up.

The fascist clique mobilized riot police and armed forces some 100,000 strong during the puppet National Assembly election last year, the commemoration of the April 19 popular uprising, the Kwangju popular uprising and for blocking the June 10 and August 15 North-South student talks. And [word indistinct] forces some one million strong were hurled for an unprecedented suppression during the 24th Seoul Olympics.

In South Korea a wholesale suppression of the democratic forces has been intensified since the announcement of "a special statement" on March 20 in which the traitor No Tae-u gave up his "commitment to interim evaluation."

After Rev. Mun Ik-hwan's visit to Pyongyang, the fascist clique has resorted to a frantic offensive against the patriotic people who demand North-South contact and dialogue and aspire after reunification.

The notorious "Joint Security Affairs Investigation Headquarters" arrested Yi Pu-yong, Ko Un and Yi Chae-o of "Chonminnyon" and other public figures and those people who published or sold books from the northern half of Korea walked away editorial advisor to HANGYORE SINMUN Yi Yong-hui and his party who had planned to visit and cover the North and kept a close watch on the tendencies of some 53,000 people involved in the movement for democracy and reunification in South Korea and put some 1,400 people under chase and watch. At the same time, it made an all-out investigation into seven dissident organisations including "Chonminnyon," "Chondaehyop," "National Literary Writers Council" and "Chonnonyon" and 220 dissident organisations throughout South Korea including 18 organisations which demanded contacts with the North.

The anti-democratic and anti-unification nature of the No Tae-u group was concentrically revealed in preventing South Korean youth and students from participating in the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students in Pyongyang.

The military fascist clique put behind bars all of some 40 South Korean students on their way to Panmunjom to greet the delegations of the North side to the talks of six organisations in the North and the South scheduled at Yonsei University on June 10.

The South Korean puppets are frantic in the suppression of democratic and reunification forces.

The No Tae-u group ordered all the police of South Korea to stand on an "emergency duty" with the approach of the anniversary of the April 19 popular uprising, put the police on "a-class emergency alert" to foil a workers' rally to commemorate the centenary of the May Day scheduled at Youido Square in Seoul and mobilized more than 20,000 heavily armed riot police of 140 companies to arrest over 1,400 people.

The military gangsters mobilized some 15,000 police of more than 100 companies and even puppet armed forces to crack down on the strike of workers at an enterprise of Hyundai Heavy Industry Co in Ulsan.

The number of those who were arrested or walked away by the No Tae-u military fascist clique, from January to mid-June this year after branding those people demanding the independence of South Korean society and national reunification as "leftist violent forces" and "forces to overthrow the system" reaches more than 142,000, over 33,400 in Seoul alone.

All kinds of brutal tortures are applied in South Korea.

Policemen of Taepyong police-box in Songnam city, Kyonggi Province, on June 2 ruthlessly kicked and bruised the innocent people they checked and handcuffed and committed such hair-raising outrages as firing tear gas at the face of the victim who was wriggling with hands bound behind.

Not even a day has passed without barbarous outrages and tortures in South Korea. Yi Chol-kyu, a student of Choson University in Kwangju, was tortured to death and thrown into a reservoir and dead bodies of those who were killed through tortures were found at sea, reservoirs valleys, caves, university towns and around villages.

All facts in South Korea clearly show that the "June 29 declaration" brought forward by the traitor No Tae-u and all his "commitments" are no more than lies and he is a military fascist and splittist who is not interested at all in the democratisation of South Korean society and does not want contact and dialogue between the North

and the South and a heinous anti-communist maniac who is putting antagonism and confrontation between fellow countrymen, the white paper stressed.

VNS Radio Cited on No's 'Deceptive Nature'

SK1007112389 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1029 GMT 10 Jul 89

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Pyongyang July 10 (KCNA)—The editorial board of Radio Voice of National Salvation" [VNS] the South Korean National Democratic Front issued an article some time ago on the lapse of two years since the traitor No Tae-u published the "June 29 declaration" under the aegis of U.S. imperialism and a year since he published the "July 7 Declaration, and exposed his deceptive nature and called for vigorously struggling against the "government," according to radio "Voice of National Salvation."

Saying that although the traitor No has made many "commitments" over the past two years in an effort to fascinate the people, none of them has been carried into practice, the article stressed: This proves that democratization of society, National Reunification and Independence cannot be realized with the No Tae-u group left intact.

It said:

Let the patriotic people of broad strata lift up louder voices of the struggle for the unconditional and immediate release and reinstatement of all the people who were arrested while fighting for independence, democracy and reunification, including Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, and for the abolition of all evil laws including the "National Security Law", a fascist law rare to be seen!

Let us fight to the last the struggle our people started to probe the truth behind the unnatural death of martyr Yi Chol-kyu and the Kwangju incident and uproot the "injustices of the Fifth Republic"!

It is none other than the United States that defends and manipulates the No Tae-u "regime" of traitors.

Let the patriotic people of broad strata wage the vigorous anti-U.S. national salvation resistance to put an end to the colonial occupation of U.S. imperialism, the wire-puller of the No Tae-u "regime"!

Let the patriotic people of broad strata continue the struggle to probe the truth behind the Kwangju incident and thus accuse the United States, the behind-the-scene manipulator of it, before the whole world and chastise it!

Let all the patriotic forces who want to live as an independent nation stubbornly fight in demand of the transfer of the prerogative of army command from the U.S. forces and withdrawal of nuclear weapons and U.S. forces!

Messages Supporting Yim Passage Further Reported

SK2107045589 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0415 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Kaesong July 20 (KCNA)—The senior member of our side to the Military Armistice Commission yesterday sent a telephone message to the senior member of the U.S. side, requesting a note guaranteeing the personal safety of the delegate of the South Korean "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) to the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students, in connection with the fact that she intends to go back to South Korea through Panmunjom immediately after the end of the International Peace and Reunification Study Tour of Korea on July 27.

The message says:

The two sides of the DPRK and the United States have a good precedent of having helped in every way civilians pass through Panmunjom while discharging their intrinsic duties through the MAC in the past.

I request the U.N. forces side, respecting this good precedent, to send us a note guaranteeing the personal safety of the delegate of Chondaehyop to the effect that it would exercise influence needed to ensure that she would not be arrested by the authorities in South Korea, to say nothing of in the Joint Security Area of Panmunjom, when she returns from her Pyongyang visit.

International Peace, Reunification March To Begin

'Absurd' South Objections Dismissed

SK2107075189 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0007 GMT 17 Jul 89

[NODONG SINMUN 17 July commentary: "A Bellicose Splittist's Preposterous Fault-finding"]

[Text] As was reported, in a few days, an international peace march for Korea's peace and reunification will take place starting from Mt Paektu and ending in Panmunjom.

Many antiwar and antinuclear activists from various countries of the world including Yim Su-kyong, South Korean delegate of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] will participate here.

The international peace march is to help achieve Korea's great cause for peace and reunification. This is an international event which deserves welcome with open arms from the Korean people.

However, only the South Korean ruling bunch are carrying out an improper act by carping on and provoking a quarrel over this international peace march.

Recently, a person called the minister of culture and information of South Korea announced a so-called statement and spoke ill of us, saying that the reason we are placing Yim Su-kyong and others in the forefront to carry out the international peace march is as a provocative act to fabricate the anti-U.S. and antigovernment struggle within South Korea.

In reality this is a challenge to Korea's great cause for peace and reunification, and to the flow of international detente. This is to check the significance of the international peace march in any way, also with foreign powers, by those pursuing confrontation, war, and national division, and a false accusation and excuse that was fabricated to misuse it in the attitude toward the North-South confrontation.

The international peace march which will take place this time is all the more just because it is a manifestation of international solidarity of our people's great cause for peace and reunification.

At present, on the Korean peninsula, a grave danger of nuclear war and perpetual division remains before us which stands face to face with our nation's desire for peace and reunification. This is because of the criminal act perpetrated by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean rulers.

The U.S. imperialists have occupied South Korea by force for some 40 years. They are infringing upon the sovereign rights of the people with the vicious colonial military fascist rule, are changing South Korea into a nuclear advanced base where some 1,000 nuclear weapons are packed to the full, and are continuously conducting nuclear war exercises such as the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. This is driving the situation of the Korean peninsula toward the brink of war.

The U.S. imperialists and the puppets are persistently in pursuit of fabricating two Koreas. Internally, they are brutally suppressing those who persist in contacts and dialogue with us, including the forces for reunification, are destroying the atmosphere for dialogue by aggravating tension through the anticommunist confrontation commotion in North-South relations, and are moving forward to close the doors for reunification and dialogue. Externally, they are raging to pursue the splittist Northern Policy.

The danger of nuclear war and perpetual division created by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets on the Korean peninsula are of great concern not only to our nation but also to the people of the world.

Under this kind of situation, the international peace march firmly denounces the criminal maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and its cat's paw that are preventing Korea's peace and the great cause for reunification, and was also called upon to express support and solidarity toward the Korean people's great cause for justice. This is receiving warm support from home and abroad.

Along with conducting the international peace march in the northern half of the Republic, the fact that plans are being carried out to conduct the same event in South Korea and various places of the world shows that Korea's peace and reunification is not only the desire of our people, but of the world and a demand of the times.

If the South Korean ruling bunch have even a ray of national conscience, they should reflect on their antinational criminal act and feel ashamed for pursuing North-South confrontation, the war to invade the North, and perpetual national division by following the U.S. imperialists until now.

The reason the puppets are carping on the international peace march reveals that the No Tae-u ring is indeed a servant of the U.S. imperialists pulling the chariot of nuclear war and the chariot of the splittists, and that it is a thorough traitor and flunkeyist nation-selling turncoat.

It is absurd for the puppets to assert that we are trying to foment an anti-U.S. and antigovernment struggle in South Korea through the international peace march.

This international peace march was not organized by us but is being conducted by the initiation of the international organizations and figures desiring antiwar, anti-nuclear, and peace. Also, the anti-U.S. and antigovernment struggle which is bringing about an upsurge in South Korea has its source in clinging to the vicious military fascist rule, to the policy in invading the North, and to the criminal maneuver to fabricate two Koreas by the U.S. imperialists who are the colonial rulers reigning over South Korea along with the puppets.

It is a preposterous and cowardly act to connect this with us by babbling that this is an intervention and the like while they themselves are committing the crime.

It is a miscalculation if the No Tae-u ring upholds the U.S. aggressors and tries to find a loophole to survive in taking the lead to carry out the war and splittist policy which is pursued by them. Korea's peace and reunification is a desire of the whole nation and the national trend toward it cannot be prevented whatsoever. The No Tae-u ring should act with discretion.

Yi Speaks at Starting Ceremony
SK2107044989 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0419 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyong July 20 (KCNA)—A ceremony for starting the peace and reunification study tour of Korea was held at Lake Samji, a historical land, on July 20.

The tour, which started in the North and the South of Korea and various countries of the world at the same time on the same day under the sponsorship of the International Preparatory Committee for the Peace and Reunification Study Tour of Korea, is an event and a solidarity movement of the world's peace-loving people which was arranged to express support to and solidarity with the Korean people's struggle to remove the danger of a nuclear war which is daily growing on the Korean peninsula, put an end to the division of a half century and hasten the peaceful reunification of the country.

Present at the ceremony place were anti-war, anti-nuke peace champions from more than 30 countries and Koreans overseas, carrying placards and sloganboards reading "The United States, withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea!", "The U.S., stop 'Team Spirit' war games in Korea!" "We are confident of independent reunification, don't scheme for permanent division!" and "We are confident of peaceful reunification, don't scheme for permanent division!" and more than 1,000 youths and students and working people from all parts of the northern half of Korea took part in it.

Letters and messages of greetings from prominent political and public figures and progressive organizations of different countries were read out at the ceremony which Rev. Chong Ki-yol, permanent steering member of the international preparatory committee of the tour declared open.

Speeches were made. An Ethiopian delegate spoke on behalf of the African region.

He said that the study tour is an expression of international solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for the peace of the country and its reunification. All the people of the world should firmly unite and extend active solidarity with the Korean people in their anti-U.S. struggle for national reunification, he added.

A U.S. reverend who represents the North American region noted that as long as the U.S. troops remain in South Korea, there cannot be genuine peace and reunification in Korea. The United States must get out of South Korea, taking along all its military equipment, he declared.

A Filipino delegate who spoke on behalf of the Asia-Pacific region said that the study tour would be a common movement of the whole world and the Korean people and the Korean people are not alone in their struggle.

A Colombian delegate spoke on behalf of the Latin-American region.

Yim Su-kyong, delegate of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) spoke.

She stressed that the peace study tour makers must go to Mt. Halla and their ranks be dissolved only when they arrive at Mt. Halla. They should never be dissolved before they reach the mountain, she said in an excited tone.

When she concluded her speech, shouts "One Korea yes and two Koreas no" burst forth from among foreigners and overseas Koreans.

The tour ranks were formed and their structures made public at the starting ceremony.

Tour of 'Peace Champions' Begins

SK2107053289 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0501 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 21 (KCNA)—The party of the International Peace and Reunification Study Tour of Korea is due to start towards Panmunjom today with an inaugural ceremony on Mt. Paektu. In this connection NODONG SINMUN today comes out with an editorial article, which reads in part:

The party is made up of anti-war, anti-nuke, peace champions, politicians, religionists and scholars from various countries of the five continents, Koreans at home and abroad and youths and students. With the involvement of coed Yim Su-kyong, the delegate of South Korea's "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop), who came to Pyongyang across the death line to participate in the 13th WFYS [World Festival of Youth and Students], the tour is drawing greater attention at home and abroad.

The international tour has been organized out of the noble desire to contribute to removing the danger of nuclear war and firmly guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula, terminating the division of Korea and promoting her reunification by concerted efforts and struggle of the world people. For the anti-war, anti-nuke, peace champions from various countries to make a long tour together with Koreans at home and abroad, for peace and reunification of Korea, defying the midsummer heat, is a great inspiration to and warm support and solidarity for the Korean people in the North and the South who are struggling with all devotion to get the U.S. Forces and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The entire people in the northern half of the country enthusiastically hail the peace and reunification study tour of Korea and extend warm greetings to all its participants.

With the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons left intact in South Korea, peace cannot be preserved on the Korean peninsula and the Korean nation and the world people cannot evade the holocaust of a thermonuclear war. The

presence of the U.S. forces in South Korea is the chief obstacle to the reunification of the country, a long-cherished desire of the nation.

The current tour will be an important occasion in exposing to the whole world the criminal moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean rulers who are seeking a permanent division of the Korean peninsula and a nuclear war, and in building up international support and solidarity for the cause of peace in Korea and her reunification on a wider scale.

The International Preparatory Committee for the tour and delegate of "Chondaehyop" Yim Su-kyong have urged the U.S. side and the South Korean authorities to let them pass through Panmunjom for their tour from Mt. Paektu to Mt. Halla.

The U.S. side and the South Korean authorities must open the way of passage through Panmunjom in response to the demand of the International Preparatory Committee and the call of Yim Su-kyong.

Hanminjon Leader Supports Tour

SK2107074589 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1604 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the "South Korean National Democratic Front" (Hanminjon) issued a statement to the press on July 19 in connection with the peace and reunification study tour of Korea which will take place from July 20 to 27 according to radio "Voice of National Salvation."

Hanminjon warmly supports the study tour, highly estimating it as an event representing the will of the whole nation in the North and the South for reunification and human aspiration for peace, he said.

The study tour is of weighty importance as it represents a [word indistinct] timely event in removing the imminent dangers of nuclear war prevailing on the Korean peninsula as early as possible and [word indistinct] bridge for national reunification, he said, [word indistinct].

In particular, Yim Su-kyong, delegate of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) representing one million students in the South, is standing in the van of the common struggle of the nation to put down the bar of division and make a breakthrough for reunification by joining the [word indistinct] tour from Mt. Paektu a sacred mountain, to Panmunjom, singing the song of reunification shoulder to shoulder with students in the North.

We highly appreciate the determined action of Yim Su-kyong as an expression of true patriotism to unify the divided nation and land even by devoting her life to the reunification national salvation.

The attitude toward the study tour is a yardstick discerning whether [word indistinct] truly wants the peace on the Korean peninsula and the reunification of the nation or not.

Hanminjon [words indistinct] No Tae-u group [words indistinct] at the [word indistinct] toward peace and reunification, get rid of the position of pursuing division and unconditionally [words indistinct] the peace study tour.

It is people of all strata who look forward to living a genuine life in a reunified country should evenly merge their voices into these of the participants in the [word indistinct] study tour [word indistinct] to put a period to the history of the division and win the great cause of national reunification and take an active part in the struggle to carry it out.

South Students Distribute Materials on North

SK2107050089 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0428 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 21 (KCNA)—Three students including Kim Yong-suk, chairman of the Preparatory Committee for Rural Service Activities of Kyonghui University in Seoul, printed and distributed literatures lauding the advanced popular health system of the northern half of Korea, according to a report.

Conducting rural service activities at 30 villages in Cunchang County, North Cholla Province, together with some 400 fellow students from July 11, they printed more than 100 copies of "Nongmin Sesang" No. 1 in the name of the Committee for the Promotion of Solidarity between Peasants and Students and distributed them among villagers.

The literatures reportedly introduce the happy life of rural villagers in the northern half of Korea who are enjoying longevity free from diseases under the system of universal free medical assistance. They also expose the miserable reality of the South Korean countryside where people can hardly have a disease cured when they fall ill under the anti-popular health system.

Kim Il-song Receives Liaison Committee Official

SK1807123689 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1406 GMT 18 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 18 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received Guy Dupre, secretary general of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea, and his party on a visit to Korea.

Present on the occasion was Kim Yong-son, director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The guests presented to President Kim Il-song a bunch of flowers carrying their reverence for him and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and conversed with the guests in a cordial atmosphere. President Kim Il-song gave a luncheon for the guests.

'Doubts' Over Cause of South Worker's Death
SK1507044589 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0433 GMT 15 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—A worker was reportedly found dead at a spa in Masan, South Kyongsang Province of South Korea on July 6, hanging from a pine tree four metres high.

He was identified as Kam Yong-ki, a worker of the Lucky Group factory in the Changwon industrial zone.

He was elected a deputy to the factory trade union on July 5.

Asserting that he "had no reason to commit suicide," his family expressed strong doubts as to his death.

The unending cases of unnatural death in South Korea show that the white terrorism of the No Tae-u fascist clique against the patriotic democratic forces is becoming all the more wanton.

More International Reaction to Youth Festival

Zambia's Kaunda Sends Greetings
SK2107105689 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1028 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message of greetings from Kenneth David Kaunda, president of the Republic of Zambia, on the successful conclusion of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students [WFYS].

The message dated July 18 said:

This grand occasion did not only provide an opportunity for youths and students the world over to share experiences and reflections but over and above a demonstration of togetherness and unity in our one world.

The spirit of Pyongyang should therefore be a source of great inspiration to youths all over the world in our continued struggle to make this world a better place to live in.

The festival provided yet another rare and unique opportunity for youths of our two countries and those from other parts of the world to know each other better.

The occasion has helped to strengthen further the already very warm relations that exist between the two countries.

While commending you for the resounding success of the festival it is our wish and desire that the unity and brotherly atmosphere that characterised the festival shall continue to be a shining example in the furtherance of peace, unity and harmony not only between our two sister countries but throughout the world.

Kim Chong-il Thanked by Tourism Board
SK2007052489 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0511 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter of thanks from the participants of the meeting of the Special Council of International Bureau for Tourism and Exchange of Youth which was held on July 5 during the period of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students in Pyongyang.

The meeting particularly stressed that the 13th WFYS was held in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and thus the festival movement has made further progress and enrichment, the letter said. It went on:

This festival, the first of its kind in Asia, opens a bright prospect for the strengthening of the struggle of the world youth and students for peace and anti-imperialist solidarity.

The meeting of the special council of the international bureau for tourism and exchange of youth extends sincere thanks to Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, for having wisely directed preparations for the festival and provided excellent conditions for it.

Kim Il-song Congratulates Poland's Jaruzelski
SK2007110089 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1048 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent today a message of greetings to Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski who is first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party upon his election as president of the Polish People's Republic.

The message says:

I extend warm congratulations to you on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people and on my own behalf upon your election as president of the Polish People's Republic.

I take this opportunity of sincerely wishing you fresh success in your future work to promote the socio-economic development, improve the people's welfare and build a prosperous socialist Poland.

I am convinced that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the two countries will grow stronger and develop.

Gathering Marks Polish Anniversary
SK1807123589 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1041 GMT 18 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 18 (KCNA)—A friendship gathering was held in Korea-Poland friendship Sunchon City on July 17 on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the resurrection of Poland. Present there on invitation were Mieczyslaw Dedo, Polish Ambassador to Korea, and his embassy officials.

Officials concerned and working people in the city were present.

Speeches were made at the gathering.

The attendants saw pictures on the achievements of the Polish people in socialist construction and appreciated an art performance of children in the city and a Polish film.

Romanian Communist Party Delegation Arrives
SK1407153589 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1523 GMT 14 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 14 (KCNA)—A Romanian Communist Party Workers' delegation headed by Dumitru Stefanescu, secretary of the Olt County committee of the Romanian Communist Party, arrived here today by air.

Choe Tae-pok Meets Delegation Head
SK2107064289 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1603 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, on July 19 met and had friendly conversation with the party workers delegation of the Romanian Communist Party led by Dumitru Stefanescu, secretary of the Olt County committee of the party.

Present there was Romanian ambassador to Korea Nicolae Girba.

WPK Delegation Leaves for China Visit
SK2007105489 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1044 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—A workers' delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Chin-ok, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, left here today for China by train.

Anniversary of Mongolian Revolution Commemorated

Kim Il-song Greet MPR Counterpart
SK1007154789 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1534 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 10 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR], on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the Mongolian people's revolution.

The message says:

Since the victory of the people's revolution the Mongolian people have done away with the feudal backwardness and built a socialist agricultural-industrial state in the land of Mongolia.

The Korean people are rejoiced over the many successes achieved by the fraternal Mongolian people today in the struggle to promote socio-economic development and realise the industrialisation of the country under the leadership of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party headed by you.

I take this opportunity to sincerely wish you and your people greater success in the work to implement the decisions of the 19th Congress of the MPRP and achieve peace and security in the Asian and Pacific region.

I am convinced that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our two parties, two countries and two peoples will consistently expand and develop in the spirit agreed upon at the meetings and talks between us and in accordance with the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Kim Yong-nam Speaks at Reception
SK1307063289 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0518 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—Mongolian Ambassador to Korea Jambaldorjiin Badra gave a reception at his embassy Wednesday evening on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the Mongolian people's revolution.

Speaking at the reception, Ambassador Jambaldorjiin Badra said the Mongolian party, government and people rejoice as over their own over the great successes made by the fraternal Korean people in socialist construction under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Kim Il-song, and fully support the reasonable initiatives and proposals of the Korean party and government and the just struggle of the Korean people for the peaceful reunification of the country.

Stating that the Mongolian party, government and people set store by the long-standing relations of friendship they established with the fraternal Korean people, he pointed to the fact that these friendly relations are developing in scope in all fields including politics, economy and culture.

In his speech Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-premier and foreign minister, said the victory of the Mongolian people's revolution was a historical event which opened a road to socialism, freeing the people from the feudal fetters.

He noted that the task of transition from the feudal society directly to socialist society and the tasks of building a socialist agricultural-industrial state have been successfully fulfilled in Mongolia after the victory of the revolution.

Our people wish the Mongolian people greater success in socialist construction under the leadership of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party headed by Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, he said.

Referring to the Korea-Mongolia friendly relations which are developing favorably with each passing day, he stressed:

We will make all efforts in the future, too, to further consolidate and develop these friendly relations in accordance with the spirit agreed upon at the meeting and talks between the leaders of the two countries.

Mongolian Feature Film Enjoyed

SK1707153289 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1520 GMT 17 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 17 (KCNA)—A photo exhibition and a film show were arranged in Pyongyang today on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the victory of the Mongolian People's Revolution under the sponsorship of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Korea-Mongolia Friendship Association.

Present there were Yi Mong-ho, chairman of the committee, and officials concerned as well as working people in the city.

Present there on invitation were Mongolian Ambassador to Korea Jambaldorjiin Badra and his embassy officials and cultural officials of different embassies here.

Speeches were exchanged at the photo exhibition.

Then the participants made a round of the pictures showing the achievements made by the Mongolian people in politics, economy, culture and various other domains since the victory of the revolution.

They appreciated a Mongolian feature film.

Dailies Report on Cuban-Korean Solidarity Month SK2007061089 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0514 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—Dailies here carry articles on the opening of a month of solidarity with the Cuban people today in Korea.

Colourful events will be held during the month in Pyongyang and local areas.

A signed article of NODONG SINMUN says that the two peoples of Korea and Cuba regard it as their internationalist obligation to support and help each other in the revolutionary cause and this makes a great contribution to accelerating the revolution and construction in the two countries.

Today socialist Cuba serves as a banner inspiring the Latin American people who are fighting for independence and sovereignty and the international position of the Republic of Cuba is rising with each passing day, the article says, and continues:

The U.S. imperialists are viciously scheming to strangle the Cuban revolution. But the Cuban revolution is marching from victory to victory. The Korean people have resolutely denounced the U.S. imperialists' anti-Cuba moves and expressed full support and solidarity for the just cause of the Cuban people, regarding it as their own. Invariable is this stand.

The Cuban people are faithful people. They are true to the class principles and uphold the revolutionary obligation.

The Korean people are very happy to have the genuine and reliable Cuban people as their class brothers and revolutionary comrades-in-arms in Latin America.

The Korea-Cuba friendship is based on the profound intimacy between the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and the supreme leader of the Cuban people Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

The Korean people's voice of solidarity with the revolutionary cause of the Cuban people will be loud forever in the future, too.

The author of a MINJU CHOSON article says:

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples will further expand and develop, the Korean people sincerely wish the Cuban people greater successes in their socialist construction.

Yi Chol-sin Addresses Meeting
SK2107084689 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1617 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—An opening meeting of the "month of solidarity with Cuban people" was held today in Pyongyang on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of the July 26 [word indistinct] of the Cuban people.

The meeting was addressed by Yi Chol-sin vice-chairman of the committee for cultural relations with foreign countries and vice-chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee.

He said:

The Cuban people is a heroic people who achieved the victory of the revolution [word indistinct] the bloody armed struggle for the first time in Latin America and held aloft the banner of socialism in the Western hemisphere.

All the achievements in the land of Cuba are unthinkable apart from the wise leadership and energetic activities of Comrade Fidel Castro, the supreme leader of the Cuban revolution.

[Word indistinct] in the future, too, as in the past fight hand in hand with the revolutionary Cuban people without slightest vacillation whatever storm and stress may come to the revolution and make all efforts to keep the militant friendship and unity between the two people in fuller bloom.

Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega spoke next.

He congratulated the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people upon successfully holding the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students in Pyongyang under the [word indistinct] of the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea expresses particular solidarity with the struggle of the Cuban people, he said, and stressed:

Cuba will in the future, too, as in the past positively support the Korean people's just cause of national reunification.

The attendants of the meeting looked round photos showing the achievements made by the Cuban people in political, economic, cultural and other fields and appreciated a Cuban film.

Anniversary of Nicaraguan Revolution Commemorated

Ambassador Hosts Victory Party
SK2107081689 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1553 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—Nicaraguan Ambassador to Korea Victor Selva Gutierrez arranged a party at the Ongnyu Restaurant on July 20 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution.

The Nicaraguan ambassador spoke at the party.

He said that the Korean people have built their country into a developed socialist state by displaying matchless heroism under the correct leadership of the great Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il and the Workers' Party of Korea with the *chuche* idea as its guideline.

The Sandinist National Liberation Front and the Nicaraguan Government remember the positive support and encouragement rendered by the Workers' Party, government and people of Korea to the Nicaraguan people in their struggle against the U.S. imperialists, he said. He extended heartfelt thanks to Comrade President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leaders.

Noting that the Sandinist National Liberation Front, the government and people of Nicaragua stand on the side of the Korean people who are struggling for the peaceful reunification of the country, he demanded the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea.

Choe Kwang, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, spoke next.

He stated that the victory of the Sandinist revolution was a valuable gain of the bloody armed struggle of the Nicaraguan people and an important event which gave great inspiring strength to the Latin American people.

Over the past ten years since the victory of the revolution, the Nicaraguan people have traversed a proud road for independence, sovereignty and the building of a new society under the correct leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, he said, and stressed:

They are today reliably defending the security and sovereignty of the country firmly allied around the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the government of the Republic headed by respected Comrade Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

Our party and the government of the Republic will in the future, too, support and encourage the just cause of the fraternal Nicaraguan people to the end, firmly standing on their side.

Meeting Marks Nicaraguan Revolution

SK1407054989 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0529 GMT 14 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 14 (KCNA)—A meeting was held at the Korea-Nicaragua Friendship Nampo Glassware Factory on July 13 to mark the 10th anniversary of the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Present at the meeting were Chong Sun-to, vice-chairman of the Nampo Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee and vice-chairman of the Korea-Nicaragua Solidarity Committee, and other officials concerned and workers of the factory.

Victor Selva Gutierrez, Nicaraguan Ambassador to Korea, and his embassy officials, and the Director of the Political Department of the Nicaraguan Defence Ministry and the head of the Nicaraguan Youth and Student Delegation who participated in the 13th WFYS [World Festival of Youth and Students], were present on invitation.

Speeches were made at the meeting which began with the playing of the national anthems of Nicaragua and Korea.

Iranian Premier Supports Reunification Plan

SK2107050689 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0431 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 21 (KCNA)—The root cause of Korea's division lies in the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists and, accordingly, the U.S. troops must withdraw from South Korea for the guarantee of peace on the Korean peninsula.

Mir Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said this when he met a delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of Korea headed by chairman of its Standing Committee Yang Hyong-sop on July 17.

The proposals for national reunification put forward by His Excellency Kim Il-song, the great leader, are most fair and popular, he stressed.

He hoped that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Iran and Korea would further strengthen and develop.

WPK Message Greet Egyptian Party Congress

SK2007110489 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1046 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] yesterday sent a message of greetings to the fifth congress of the Egyptian National Democratic Party.

Expressing the belief that the congress will mark an important occasion in the struggle of the party and people of Egypt to achieve national unity and build a new prosperous society, the message wishes the congress fine success in its work.

WPK Delegation Leaves for Angola, Congo

SK2007110289 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1046 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 20 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Cho Se-ung, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council, left Pyongyang today to attend the 4th Congress of the Congolese Party of Labour.

Before visiting the Congo, the delegation will pay a goodwill visit to Angola.

WPK Group To Attend Mozambique Frelimo Congress

SK1507113289 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1037 GMT 15 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Chong Chun-ki, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council, left Pyongyang on July 15 to participate in the 5th Congress of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party (The Frelimo Party).

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Kim Yong-son, director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and other officials concerned.

Kim Song-chol Meets With Burkinabe Youth

SK1507044789 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0435 GMT 15 Jul 89

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—A meeting of Korean and Burkina Faso young people was held here Friday.

It was attended by Kim Song-chol, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, and Korean youths and the members of the delegation of the Burkina Faso National Youth Union who had participated in the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students.

Speeches were made there.

The speakers proudly noted that the friendly and cooperative relations between the peoples and youths of the two countries provided by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Blaise Compaore are developing favorably with each passing day.

They evinced their firm determination to make all efforts to further strengthen and develop the bonds of friendship between the young people of the two countries.

The attendants deepened the sentiments of friendship and unity, singing and dancing together.

*** Power Demands Make Nuclear Energy Necessary**
4110043 *Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN* in Korean
28 May 89 p 4

[Article by Kim Hui-in: "A Solution to the Power Problem; Controlled Thermonuclear Reaction"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught as follows:

"We must exert great efforts to advance cellular engineering, genetic engineering, ultra high pressure physics, and cryogenics, and develop new sources of energy such as nuclear and solar energy, and study laser and plasma technology in depth so that we may extensively utilize them in our national economy."

Nuclear energy is becoming more and more important with each passing day in satisfying the rapidly growing demand for power. A new era dawned in the early 1950's with the development of power industry by using atomic energy based on the splitting of the nuclei of heavy elements by slow-moving lightweight neutrons, and since then the use of nuclear power has continued on a successful path. But, dawning now is another new era of nuclear energy based on the splitting of nuclei by fast neutrons. This new method has opened the way to use uranium and thorium extracted from nature for fuel. As a result, man has been able to expand his energy resources about 100 times what would be available by fossil fuel alone, such as coal, petroleum, and natural gas. One of the important strong points of nuclear energy is that as long as there is a guarantee for a safe operation of nuclear reactors and a reliable way of disposing of nuclear wastes, nuclear energy is free of the kind of pollution that accompanies the use of fossil fuel. The development of nuclear energy, however, does not stop here. As a matter of fact, the development of third-generation nuclear energy is vigorously under way to provide mankind with more and safer energy sources. This development is none other than research on controlled thermonuclear reaction (CTR).

CTR is a new form of nuclear energy different from the preceding generations. The preceding generations of nuclear energy were based essentially on a slow gradual control of the fission process of uranium or plutonium inside the reactor for a certain time span, not by a sudden explosion. CTR, on the other hand, boils down to controlling the fusion process of light-weight nuclei. Nuclear energy is emitted not only when heavy nuclei split but also when light nuclei fuse into heavier nuclei. This process of fusion takes place on a normal basis at

the centers of the sun and most of the stars twinkling in the night skies, and it is believed that the energy generated in this fusion process is the source of the energy emitted by these stars.

Therefore, achieving CTR is said to be tantamount to creating an "artificial sun" on the earth, and it will mark an epochal event in the energy industry.

In order for CTR to be achieved, it is necessary to create a plasma of nuclear fusion materials at an extremely high temperature. Nuclei, when they approach one another, exercise an underlying static effort on one another because each of them is positively charged. Therefore, in order for nuclei to be fused, they have to have reactive energy powerful enough to overcome this underlying static effect. Thermonuclear reaction for fusion is achieved at a high temperature of 13 million degrees as in case of the plasma at the heart of the sun.

To achieve CTR, it is necessary not only to heat the plasma to a high temperature but also to contain it in a container for a long time in order to prevent it from spreading and to achieve nuclear fusion inside the container.

Research on CTR has continued since the early fifties. In the past 30 years or more, efforts have been devoted entirely to the question of how to ensure the heating and containment of plasma at a required level.

At an early stage, it was determined that plasma is in a very unstable state and easily spreads; accordingly, it is very difficult to contain plasma at a high temperature. An army of physicists came to tackle the task of unraveling the physical attributes of plasma, persistent research efforts were made to determine the cause of the unstable state of plasma and devise ways to curb it. As a result, plasma physics was developed rapidly and a new field of scientific and technological study on the formation of high-temperature plasma and its containment was created. It was not until the early 1970's that research results began to be obtained on how to achieve CTR. Importantly, it was learned that plasma can be contained for a long time when the capacity of the magnetic-field container is expanded. Many countries have vied to enlarge their container capacity, and a number of CTR devices on a critical reactor scale have been built, and they are now entering the operational stage. As a result, in the eighties, research on CTR has entered the final stage of a physical demonstration.

With the development and utilization of laser technology in the late sixties, a new way of achieving CTR has come to be developed. CTR can be achieved even with a shorter containment time when the density of plasma is very high. When plasma attains a high density equivalent to that of a solid object, the time required for plasma to expand by its own pressure is equal to the containment time necessary to achieve nuclear fusion in a reactor. When a solid fuel ball with a diameter of approximately

1 millimeter is heated as high as 100 million degrees by applying lasers instantaneously to it, the conditions for achieving nuclear fusion in a reactor can be met without any special containment device. With the acceleration of research on this method since 1970, the development of a ultra large-capacity impulse laser has been vigorously pushed.

Deuterium—one of the fuel materials used in the deuterium-tritium fusion reactor stage which can be the first stage of the utilization of CTR energy—accounts for 0.0156 percent of the total content of natural hydrogen. Accordingly, the sea water of the oceans surrounding the land mass of the earth is its inexhaustible source. Tritium, another material which needs to be used along with deuterium, does not exist in natural form. However, it can be synthesized by neutrons generated from deuterium-tritium reaction. When neutrons are absorbed into lithium, a heating reaction is produced which generates deuterium along with helium. Therefore, fuel sources at the deuterium-tritium fusion reactor stage are limited by the amount of deposits of lithium extractable from the earth crust and sea water. Nevertheless, the amount of the total fusion energy generated from these fuels is more than 1,000 times the total energy that can be produced by the atomic power of the past.

When plasma containment techniques are developed and the containment and heating capacities of the nuclear fusion reactor are increased by 10 percent, nuclear fusion can be attained by using deuterium alone. In that event, the sea water of the oceans surrounding the earth will become a fuel source and be converted to a gigantic storage house of literally an astronomical amount of energy.

This amount is so huge that even if the annual fuel consumption level of the world should increase several dozen times the current level, fuel demand would be met fully for millenniums.

CTR research is indeed a formidable task not only to develop inexhaustible energy sources but also to achieve a leaping development in science and technology.

Today, CTR research is being pushed forward vigorously to develop a practical fusion reactor amid the great excitement and expectations of the people.

Creation of a power industry based on CTR is a subject of research which is of great significance in economic development.

Our scientists and engineers should pay profound attention to the CTR field in keeping with the trends of scientific and technological development in the world, and plan and coordinate organizational work and vigorously push forward research work, so that they may securely ensure the chuche-oriented development of the national economy.

*** Workers Observe Geological Survey Day**

41100038 Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean
15 May 89 p 3

[Article by Myong Hong-suk: "With the Pride of 'A Scout': Members of the Geological Survey Corps in Various Districts on the Occasion of the Geological Survey Day"]

[Text] Today is Geological Survey Day, a significant holiday for the functionaries in the field of geological surveying and members of the geological survey corps.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song founded a Council of Functionaries in the Field of Geological Surveying Throughout the Nation on 15 May 1961 and made public his historical work "Regarding Giving Priority to the Geological Survey Work." Emphasizing the significance and importance of giving priority to, strengthening, and developing the geological survey work in developing the national economy, the great leader clearly set forth in his work a clear-cut direction and way in which this field should make headway.

The functionaries in the field of geological surveying observe 15 May as Geological Survey Day every year in order to permanently observe and glorify this historical day.

The party members and all workers, observing Geological Survey Day as their holiday, are thinking with deep emotion about the judicious leadership of the great leader and the party who, with great interest in the strengthening and developing of geological survey work in this country, are leading them by the hand, step by step, along the very road of victory.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught as follows:

"We must actively develop rich underground resources, make the nation economically stronger, continuously improve the people's livelihood, and thereby leave a richer display of property and fortune to our descendants."

Earlier, in the period of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the great leader entertained a plan to build a paradise of socialism and communism on the rehabilitated land of the fatherland by developing the rich resources of the country. At every stage and in every period of revolutionary development, from the liberation through present time, he clearly showed the way along which the field of geological surveying should march forward.

During the rigid time of war, the great leader set forth the direction and the way of wartime geological survey by foreseeing a victorious future for the fatherland. During the difficult time after the war, he himself convened a

council of functionaries in the field of geological surveying and gave powerful instructions designed to direct the chuche-oriented development of the work of geological surveying.

The road along which the lofty will of the great leader, which envisages active development of rich underground resources of the country not only for today but also for the future, in order to leave property and fortune to those who come after, is decorated with the immortal achievements of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il called the members of the geological survey corps those comrades who are working hardest, face to face with nature in the raw. He called them great patriots with the purest and cleanest of conscience who are devoting themselves entirely to the great leader with a straight-forward loyalty regardless of whether others notice or there is any recognition. Calling them real revolutionaries, he put great confidence in them. [passage omitted]

Under the judicious leadership and great affection and solicitude of the great leader and the party, the field of geological surveying enjoyed astounding transformation during the period just past.

The forces of geological surveying have continuously grown: Their rank and file number is more than two or three times compared to those of more than 20 years ago.

Their plants which manufacture surveying equipment were modernized so that they could contribute to the rapid development in survey work in conformity with the party's demands. Today these plants are manufacturing on their own modern surveying equipment, including boring machines, in rapid succession.

Chuche was firmly established in the work of geological surveying and the current and prospective surveying in new regions was carried out more actively. Thus the guaranteed amount of coal and ores in the existing coal mines and metal mines, including those in Yanggang Province regions, Komdok, and Anju was increased greatly. And new metal mines and coal mines were developed in great numbers in many places.

With the pride and confidence that the great work of remaking nature is a 10,000-year project which will make the territory of the fatherland into a more beautiful and prosperous paradise of the people, the scientists and technicians in the field of geological surveying and the members of geological survey corps made great contributions to completing ahead of schedule the construction of major target projects, including the construction of the Western Sea lockgate.

The members of geological survey group and corps under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Resource Development, who are vigorously launching into successfully completing the final year of the eighties, are launching a stupendous struggle to accomplish ahead of schedule the Third 7-Year Plan.

Today on the occasion of Geological Survey Day, the party members and the workers in this field, with high pride and confidence as "the scouts" of industries, are fully and unanimously resolved, as they have been in the past, to guard more staunchly the honorable sentry posts assigned to them by the party.

South Korea

President Bush Assures Yi of U.S. Commitment
SK2107014389 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Washington, July 20 (YONHAP)—U.S. President George Bush, in a private meeting with South Korean Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun, reaffirmed the U.S. security commitment to Korea Thursday and said his administration is not considering a troop reduction from Korea.

Bush and Yi, who was here to attend the annual Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting, discussed issues surrounding the Korean peninsula in the oval office.

The United States would not even consider reducing or withdrawing troops from South Korea at this stage, Yi quoted Bush as saying.

Bush also expressed America's firm determination to defend Korea, Yi told reporters at Andrews Air Force Base before departing for New York.

The Korean minister said he delivered a personal letter from President No Tae-u to Bush, who immediately told an aide to prepare a reply.

The contents of the letter were not disclosed.

Yi also met with Vice President J. Danforth Quayle.

Despite hints by congressmen and administration officials of a gradual scaling down of the U.S. presence in Korea, U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and Yi agreed that the number of troops should remain unchanged but that Korea should share more of the defense burden.

Some 43,000 U.S. military personnel are stationed in Korea under the Korea-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty. Dissident and radical student groups demand their withdrawal, saying they hamper reunification with North Korea.

A majority of Koreans support the presence of the troops and U.S. officials have said they will stay as long as they are wanted.

U.S.-ROK Security Consultative Meeting Assessed

Editorial Cartoon Depicts 'Burden'

SK2007115289 Seoul YONHAP in English 0936 GMT
20 Jul 89

[By Kim Chang-hoe]

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—After heavy morning rain dumped by a passing thunder storm brought a brief respite from the suffocating heat Thursday, a leading newspaper cartoonist dreamed up an unusual street scene.

In his daily four-cut strip in the TONG-A ILBO, the cartoonist sent his character into the rain without an umbrella and had him ask an American passerby to share an umbrella.

The American was kind enough to accept the request but clever enough to demand burden sharing in return for the favor.

A deal was struck: The poor Korean, under the umbrella at last, was sweating while the tall American perched happily on his shoulders.

On the same day in Washington, South Korean defense officials were complaining privately about "a well-orchestrated 1-2-3 combination of the U.S. Administration, Congress and news media campaigns" to press for Korea's increased defense burden sharing in return for a continued U.S. military presence.

After a three-day annual security consultative meeting between the two countries in the U.S. capital, Korean officials led by Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun were trying to put more emphasis on the U.S. reassurance that it has no plans for troop reduction in Korea despite outcries from Congress.

"U.S. forces should remain in Korea as long as they are needed for deterrence against the North Korean military threat, and as long as the governments and peoples of the United States and the Republic of Korea believe the U.S. troop presence serves the interest of peace and stability on the Korean peninsula," was the phrase the Korean officials quoted in the 14-point joint communique issued at the end of the talks.

They said U.S. reassurance of its continued military presence in Korea was hard to ignore in light of present circumstances.

In addition, they said the clause has made it clear that the U.S. military presence in Korea is no more a one-sided favor but a common necessity.

They hastened to point out the government and the people of the United States were added to the concerned parties regarding the U.S. military presence in Korea, in contrast to past practice of saying U.S. troops will remain in Korea as long as the government and people of South Korea want.

Nevertheless, the Korean officials now have to ask the tax payers back home to come up with 80 million U.S. dollars more than they were told earlier to keep 43,000 U.S. soldiers on their soil over the next three years.

In addition to the 40 million dollars of annual burden sharing pledged to the United States until 1991, the officials agreed to contribute an additional 30 million dollars in 1990 and another 50 million dollars in 1992 to the combined defense improvement program for U.S. and South Korean forces.

The United States expressed in the 14-point joint communique issued at the end of the annual talks its hope that additional means to share the defense burden would be sought, indicating a tougher tug of war for Korean defense officials in future talks.

In recent months, some members of the U.S. Congress have been pressing the administration of President George Bush to cut troop strength in Korea in light of the U.S. budget deficit and Korea's economic success.

Bush has repeatedly denied any troop cutback plan, but U.S. defense officials also admitted recently that plans for eventual troop reduction in Korea were under preliminary consideration.

Korean officials must inform the tax payers of another likely victim of the apparent trade-off.

Yi, in a joint news conference with U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney after the talks, said his government has decided to purchase U.S. fighter jets as part of a 2.6 billion dollar FX program to modernize its air force.

He said a decision on whether to buy the General Dynamics F-16 or McDonnell Douglas F-18 will be made late next month or early September.

Yi had reportedly proposed buying 12 planes, assembling 36 others from U.S.-supplied kits and building 72 in a co-production deal, but Cheney urged him to buy all the planes off the shelf, reflecting worries expressed by some U.S. Congressmen over the transfer of sensitive U.S. technologies.

The U.S. lawmakers contended that technology transfer could help Korea develop its own aircraft industry to compete with U.S. firms.

"What is likely to result will probably be some blend" of purchased and jointly built planes, Cheney said.

Korean officials also said they had to make concessions in defense burden sharing in return for "U.S. cooperation" on Korea's defense industry, which was highlighted in the two memoranda of understanding signed during the three days.

Under those agreements, Korean defense industries will not pay royalties on export products made under U.S. licence, sharpening their competitive edge considerably.

The United States also agreed to launch a joint missile guidance technology development project with Korea for improving the accuracy of their surface-to-air missiles.

Despite efforts by Korean defense officials to justify the concessions they made in Washington, many military analysts here express concern that they might have committed themselves to a greater degree of defense burden sharing than necessary.

These analysts say they are unable to see why Korea's defense officials had to respond so sensitively to the outcry from a small segment of U.S. society for troop cutbacks when it is a routine prelude to such negotiations between the two countries.

"If the security commitment to South Korea is so firm, why did they have to give an impression that the calls for troop cutbacks would immediately become reality?" groused one analyst.

Opposition Expresses Some Regrets

SK2107024289 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 21 Jul 89 p 2

[Text] Opposition parties yesterday welcomed the agreement between Seoul and Washington to maintain the status quo in the stationing of U.S. troops in South Korea.

However, they registered their regret over the decision to increase Korea's share of the defense expenditure in the just-ended annual Security Consultative Meeting held in Washington.

Rep. Yi Sang-su, spokesman of the Party for Peace and Democracy, stated, "In this situation in which no progress has been made for the achievement of peace on the Korean peninsula, the agreement not to cut back the U.S. forces in Korea was a natural conclusion and we welcome it."

He added, "But it was not a successful meeting in that they made no progress in the negotiations for joint production and selling of the latest FX jet fighters, while paving the way for Korea's greater share in defense spending."

He also complained about the lack of development in the talks for the transfer of the operational control of combined forces from the U.S. to Korea.

RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] Yi In-che said in a statement, "It is very regrettable that the government agreed with Washington's request for more cost-sharing without prior consultation with the opposition parties."

Yi said the opposition parties would assess the "appropriateness" of Seoul's increased defense contributions to the U.S. expenses for troops stationed here during the regular Assembly session in September.

Results of Meeting 'Reassuring'

SK2107033089 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 21 Jul 89 p 6

[Editorial: "ROK-U.S. Defense Commitment"]

[Text] It is reassuring to learn that the United States has reaffirmed there will be no pullout of its forces from South Korea, no American troop cuts as long as the Korean people want the U.S. military presence as a deterrent against North Korean provocation.

We welcome the news report, in particular, that Korea and the United States during their latest 21st Security Consultative Meeting agreed not to take up the U.S. troop pullout problem until the latter 1990s when Seoul is expected to attain sufficient defense capability to deter North Korean military threats without U.S. assistance.

Notably, the agreement between the two countries is a great relief to an overwhelming majority of the Korean people who were concerned about U.S. moves to propose discussion of reductions in the U.S. troop presence in Korea as reported by some leading American news media just prior to the start of the three-day annual Seoul-Washington security meeting.

In the 14-point joint communique to wrap up the meeting held at the Pentagon, Korea pledged to increase its annual contribution to the U.S.-led Combined Defense Improvement Program that represents Korea's sharing of spending on the U.S. military presence in Korea, from the current \$40 million to \$70 million over the next two years, and up to \$90 million beginning 1992.

Though some may criticize that the rapid increase in our burden share is too much, it is reasonably adjusted and agreeable, in light of the vital need for sustaining the U.S. military presence here. In this context, the latest defense talks with the United States have served to cement the two allies' cooperative partnership also in the area of defense in the true sense.

While North Korea has been reported recently as likely to be able to produce its own nuclear arms by the mid-1990s, noteworthy through the security meeting in Washington is the U.S. commitment to continue to provide a nuclear umbrella to South Korea.

Also to be noted in the communique is the fact that both sides agreed that North Korea poses a serious threat to South Korea by continuing to deploy its forces offensively.

Another point drawing our attention is the view shared by Korean Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun and his U.S. counterpart Richard Cheney that Korea should assume increasing responsibility for its own defense although Korea-U.S. defense cooperation should continue.

In anticipation of the need for discussion of the problem of transferring the operational control of the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces in Korea from American to Korean hands in the 1990s, a noteworthy agreement was made during the latest meeting to have a Korean general assume the post of chief staff for logistics at the Combined Forces Command beginning next year. Also worth a mention is the decision to strengthen the command's early warning system against war attacks from the North.

The defense chiefs also signed two memorandums of understanding, one concerning cooperative research and development of surface-to-air missile guidance technology and the other on payment of royalties by Korea for production of defense equipment of U.S. origin.

At the same time, Defense Secretary Cheney expressed U.S. support for various proposals South Korea has put forward to improve relations with North Korea, emphasizing that questions involving the Korean peninsula should be resolved through inter-Korea dialogue.

It must be stressed here that the security of the Korean peninsula is directly linked with the global strategy of the United States. The sustained U.S. commitment to defend South Korea should not be affected by anti-American sentiment being expressed by a limited, small number of radical students and dissidents in the process of Korean democratization in all sectors.

However, as the pullout of foreign forces from the nation is a matter of time in the long run, a circumspect approach is needed to beef up our own capability to defend this land.

Vice Ministerial Officials Reshuffled

SK2107022689 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Jul 89 p 1

[Text] Yi Sang-pae, director of the Environment administration, was appointed vice home minister in a shakeup of nine vice ministerial-level officials yesterday following a partial Cabinet reshuffle Wednesday.

President aide Chang Sang-hyon was named vice energy-resources minister, succeeding Yi Chin-sol, who was transferred to the Construction Ministry.

Yun Song-tae, assistant health-social affairs minister, and Chong Tong-u, assistant labor minister, were promoted to vice ministers of their respective ministries.

Chang Hong-yol, former chief of the Defense Ministry's procurement division, was picked as director of the Office of Supply, Inchon mayor Yi Chae-chang as director of the Environment Administration, and premier's secretary Yi Chae-won as assistant to the state minister for political affairs.

President No Tae-u also named Sim Chae-hong, assistant to the state minister, as Inchon mayor.

Vice Home Minister Kim Yong-chin was relieved of his post at his request, according to a press release which came at the end of a Cabinet meeting presided over by No at Chongwadae.

RDP Condemns So's Appointment as NSP Head

SK2107020089 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 21 Jul 89 p 2

[Text] The opposition RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] yesterday condemned President No Tae-u's Wednesday appointment of So Tong-kwon as director of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), charging that the incumbent government has "no will to liquidate the Fifth Republic legacies."

So, a prosecutor general under the previous government of ex-President Chon Tu-hwan, was named new NSP director in Wednesday's partial cabinet reshuffle.

"When he was prosecutor general under Chon, he was the man who tried to haul away 17 opposition lawmakers," charged party vice president Kim Tong-yong, at a party meeting.

Rep. Yi Ki-taek said, "Not to mention the liquidation of Chon's legacies, the incumbent government is even trying to return to the ways of the old Fifth Republic."

Rep. Hwang Myong-su proposed introduction of a special prosecutor to settle the Fifth Republic issue.

Lawyers File Charges Against Former NSP Head

SK2107021489 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Jul 89 p 3

[Text] Lawyers of an arrested labor activist filed charges against the former Director of the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] Pak Se-chik and three other security officers yesterday, accusing them of malfeasance by preventing contact with their client.

Twenty-one lawyers of Yon Song-man, a leader of the Songnam area labor activist association arrested last July 6 for distributing antistate materials, said the NSP and

officers at Chungbu Police Station denied their request to see their client despite a Saturday ruling by the court guaranteeing a detainee's right to see a lawyer while in custody.

In a separate incident, some members of the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] appealed to the Seoul District Criminal Court after they were barred from meeting So Kyong-won at Seoul Prison Wednesday.

Both the lawyers and the PPD members accused the NSP and police officials of breaching the rights of arrested detainees, especially in the face of the court ruling last week allowing the suspects' contact with legal counselors.

Chu Myong-su, one of the lawyers to Yon, said they requested a meeting with their client Tuesday, three days after the court decision, but were eventually turned down. The NSP and the Chungbu Police kept passing the responsibility to each other, Chu claimed, only to turn them away by saying security officials will inform them later of a meeting schedule.

The PPD members said they, too, were turned away when they attempted to meet So, arrested for his illegal visit to Pyongyang, at the Seoul Prison Wednesday.

Japan-Based Pastor Permitted To Visit North
SK2007123889 Seoul YONHAP in English 1224 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government Thursday decided to permit a Japan-based Korean pastor holding South Korean passport to visit North Korea.

The pastor, identified as Yi Tae-kyong, 57, has thus become the first South Korean civilian to be allowed to travel to North Korea in accordance with the "Basic Guidelines for South-North Exchange and Cooperation" adopted by the Seoul government last June 12.

The decision was reached in the fourth meeting of the council for promoting South-North exchange and cooperation, which was presided over by National Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku.

Minister Yi admitted, when asked by reporters after the meeting, that the Rev. Yi's proposed visit to Pyongyang had been opposed by some quarters for its alleged "untimeliness." He said the council members, however, decided to accept Yi's plan out of a realization that a South-North exchange should be pursued as a matter of principle in connection with President No Tae-u's July 7 declaration and since the clergyman made it clear that his visit was purely for the purpose of gospel preaching.

No handed out on July 7 last year a set of initiatives essentially aimed at easing tension between the South and North Korea.

The Rev. Yi, a resident in Japan, filed last June 17 an application for an official permit for his planned visit to North Korea July 25-Aug. 10.

Any official contact between the South and North Korean authorities has recently been suspended owing to trouble caused by unauthorized visits by some South Korean nationals to Pyongyang.

*** Military Reshuffle, Attitude Shift Examined**
41070129 Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean May 89 pp 162-172

[Article by Kim Yong-chin: "The Trends of the Military in the ROK"]

[Text] **Has President No Completely Seized Control of the Military?**

Is President No really in complete control of the military?

Raising this question is unpleasant, and in a sense, even sounds disrespectful to the president as the supreme commander. General officers themselves see no ground for raising such a question and say that "the military by nature is absolutely obedient to the supreme commander, whoever he may be."

Nevertheless, it is undeniable that this question has persistently been raised since the inception of the Sixth Republic.

There may be many reasons for this. But the main reason is that the president took over a military organization that had been established exclusively in accordance with the will of his predecessor. In addition, a cacophony of conflicting views, unthinkable in the past, has been heard loudly within the military with regard to the current state of affairs and the measures the government has taken to deal with it. Anyway, in response to that question, most of the generals say, "The situation is now different." By "now" is meant after the sweeping reshuffle of the top leadership of the Army carried out on 28 March.

If so, examining the situation prevailing before 28 March and the process by which that situation was corrected must be a matter of interest as it relates to the future of democratization. Moreover, in view of the forecast of inclement political weather ahead, it is significant to examine what the new military leadership lineup, over which President No will exercise firm command and control, is like, and to predict how it will function.

In December 1987, 2 months or so before his retirement, then President Chon Tu-hwan made a sweeping reshuffle of the ROK Army, Navy, and Air Force.

In the case of the Army, 1 officer was promoted to the rank of four-star general, 5 to three-star general, 15 to two-star general, and 59 to one-star general. The whole Army was bustling with the follow-up personnel action.

But the atmosphere was unusually cool in the office of the defense minister, which should have been busiest because the generals just promoted were supposed to appear before the minister to make a formal report on their promotion.

The defense minister then was Chong Ho-yong.

According to a rumor leaked out at that time, there was such a sharp difference of opinion between the defense minister and the president over the promotion of generals and their appointment to new posts that pressures were brought to bear upon the defense minister to make him resign. On the basis of this rumor, military sources could vaguely figure out how the personnel reshuffle originally scheduled for early December was delayed until after Christmas.

According to another rumor, then Defense Minister Chong recommended that a sweeping reshuffle be put on hold on the grounds that it would be politically unethical to carry out a drastic reshuffle only 2 months or so before the new president was scheduled to take office. Chong reportedly insisted that to secure the authority of the next president, a reshuffle should be limited to the minimum necessity, such as filling the posts vacated by those generals upon completion of their terms.

Despite this advice, President Chon, leaving the defense minister out in the cold, personally called in Pak Hui-to, then Army chief of staff, and instructed him to carry out an extensive reshuffle. In the end, the defense minister reportedly gave in.

No's Close Aides Offended by the Military Reshuffle in the Closing Days of the Fifth Republic

The episode surrounding the annual military personnel reshuffle in late 1987, which was not immediately confirmed in those days but later came to light, was a cause of serious trouble for the inner circles of those in power in the early days of the Sixth Republic.

This was not so much because of the content of the reshuffle as because of the intention with which it was carried out. The problem was that the reshuffle was intended to lay the ground work for Chon to act as a regency behind the scenes after his retirement. In other words, in the view of the critics, President Chon, though he was stepping down to honor his pledge to serve only one term, sought to continue to exercise power after his retirement, by holding the military, the center of power, in his hand, and that was a matter not to be overlooked. The aides close to the incoming president were angered by, and did everything possible to forestall the reshuffle plan—a plan in keeping with the operating style of the

outgoing president. Chon had originally seized power with the military as his power base and controlled the military as the key element of his power. The tacit offer to look away from the irregularities involving the New Community Movement was one example. At any rate, the antagonism and friction between the forces of the Fifth and Sixth Republics within the ruling camp were the decisive factor responsible for the defeat of the ruling party in the 26 April general election and for the resultant domination of National Assembly by the opposition.

The military reshuffle in late 1987 led to successive blunders, and is still tormenting the present administration with its aftermath.

The following are the details of the annual military reshuffle in late 1987, which has had such an abiding after-effect:

In those days, President Chon showed favors to a total of 113 officers by putting one more star on them—80 in the Army, 16 in the Navy, and 17 in the Air Force. The meaning of this action, which was taken over the open opposition on the part of the defense minister, was so plain that it needed no explanation.

In this reshuffle, President Chon appointed his hand-picked men to key posts of the Army which would be likely to have some bearing on politics. To mention some salient examples, Lieutenant General Ko Myong-sung (15th class of the Korea Military Academy [KMA]), commander of the Army Security Command, was promoted to the rank of full general and appointed as commander in chief of the 3d ROK Army; Lt Gen Choe Pyong-uk (16th KMA class), commander in chief of the 7th Army Corps, was appointed as commander of the Army Security Command; Major General Kim Chin-yong (17th KMA class), superintendent of education and training, 3d Division, was promoted to lieutenant general and appointed as commander in chief of the Capital Defense Command.

Military sources say that it is true that both Kim and Choe have maintained personal connections with President Chon because they worked under him when he was the commander of the 1st Division and the senior adjutant to the Army chief of staff. But they disagreed with the view that the promotion of Choe and Kim was a case of favoritism, by saying that both of them had been known for their outstanding ability since they were junior grade officers. Nevertheless, the opinion of these sources lacked persuasive power at that time.

The promotion of one to the post of the commander of the Security Command after serving only 6 months or so as commander of a corps was out of the ordinary, and the other, the front-runner among the graduates of the 17th class, rose like a meteor to the key post of commander of

the Capital Defense Command. In view of the president's intentions, the explanation of these two cases of promotion could not be taken at its face value, regardless of their personal ability.

In the same reshuffle in those days, Major Generals Song Ung-sop, Sin Mal-yop, and Yi Pil-sop of the 16th KMA class and Maj Gen Yim In-cho of the 17th class were promoted to the rank of lieutenant general.

Yi-Yi Line Is the Foundation of No's Leadership Lineup

Anyhow President No had no choice but to take over the military built around people handpicked by Chon Tu-hwan, and as a result, as predicted by then Defense Minister Chong Ho-yong, the new president began to see limitations in his exercise of the prerogative as supreme commander and this was damaging to his authority.

Moreover, the public perception—regardless of whether it was a fact or not—that the new president had failed to establish his authority was a serious stumbling block in steering with great difficulty through the hazardous political waters dominated by the opposition. True, the military is no longer a collective with an absolute power to create a government and maintain it as it did in the past. But, clearly, authority emanating from the complete control of the military cannot be underestimated.

Nevertheless, the terms and the ranking order of the commanders and staffs already appointed were there as an established fact, and they were not the kind of thing that was subject to change at one stroke even by the supreme commander.

Yet, needless to say, they were not the kind of thing that the president could continue doing nothing about.

In June 1988, 4 months after his inauguration, President No replaced Pak Hui-to, the symbol of the "old Army," with Gen Yi Chong-ku, officer in the direct TK [Taegu-Kyongbuk] line, as army chief of staff. The replacement of Pak Hui 6 months before the expiration of his term was a harbinger of a reshuffle of the military leadership to come.

Subsequently, the president appointed Lt Gen Yi Chin-sam (15th KMA class), who served as a battalion commander under No when the latter was the commander of the 21st Regiment, to deputy chief of staff of the Army. In placing the Army Headquarters under the Yi-Yi lineup, the president promoted Maj Gen Yi Mun-sok (17th KMA class), chief of operations of the Army Headquarters, who once served as a battalion commander under No when the latter was a commander of the 9th Regiment, to the rank of lieutenant general and appointed him as commander of the Special Forces.

There is an anecdote that while Yi Chin-sam was serving as a battalion commander under Regiment Commander No Tae-u, the Yun Pil-yong incident occurred, and Yi

was helpful in saving his regiment commander by taking full advantage of his personal connection with Kim Chong-pil. Yi is a native of Puyo, South Chungchong Province.

Lieutenant General Yi later became the chairman of the screening committee for generals and has acted as the steward of the "No-Yi" lineup while controlling the Army from within.

In this way, President No has endeavored to form a new lineup with people having a direct connection with him, although they were few. As part of his two-prong effort to consolidate his power, he transferred Lt Gen Kim Pyong-ton (15th KMA class), commander of the Special Forces, who was a favorite with former President Chon, to the post of superintendent of the Korea Military Academy.

In addition, President No reshuffled the lower level military leadership by promoting 16 brigadier generals of the 19 and 20th KMA classes to the rank of major general and appointed them as division commanders and to other key posts.

It was at that time that a certain An, a brigadier general who rendered a distinguished service during the 12 December incident while serving as the chief of operations under No Tae-u when the latter was the 9th Division Commander, was appointed as commander of the 9th Division. In addition, President No widened the range of maneuverability of Army Chief of Staff Yi by placing on the reserve list Lieutenant Generals Yu Sung-kuk and No Un-kon (both 13th KMA class), who had seniority to the Army chief of staff, along with Lieutenant Generals Chang Chun-ik and Mu Yong-il (the same graduating class with Yi). At the same time, the president took action to promote a certain Chong and a certain Pak, both major generals who had passed up a chance to become corps commanders. In this way, the effort to establish a new leadership order has progressed slowly but steadily.

Pro-Chon Military Faction Sounds Warning to President No

However, in this process, President No reportedly maintained a hands-off attitude, giving the Army chief staff a free hand, in an effort to avoid criticism from inside and outside the military. Lt Gen Yi Chin-sam, who was the chairman of the screening committee on annual promotion of generals for 1988, recalled that "for the first time, the Army chief of staff and the president approved his committee's promotion plan in its original form."

This style of operation is entirely different from that of his predecessor, who personally picked each brigadier general, and probably, it is a tactic peculiar to President No, who seeks to reform the basic personnel appointment system of the military.

At any rate, President No partially reshuffled the military leadership late in 1988, including the appointment of Choe Pyong-uk, commander of the Security Command, as commander in charge of education and training, a sinecure, thus completing the formation of the basic lineup of his leadership personnel

The president appointed Maj Gen Cho Nam-pung (18th KMA class, deputy chief of staff of the Army Headquarters), a native of Pusan, as head of the Security Command succeeding Choe Pyong-uk. Later, this action was interpreted as a move made with the forces of the Pusan-South Kyongsang area in mind.

The move was taken as part of an effort to minimize the after-effects of a radical surgical operation.

Despite all these efforts, it was too early to say that the president had gained complete control of the military. The warning issued by Kim Chin-yon, commander in chief of the Capital Defense Command, on the question of how to handle former President Chon was interpreted as an open letter to those in power, disturbing not only those in the opposition camp but also in the ruling party.

Since then quite a few people have made similar statements, but they were not as open as Kim Chin-yon's admonition.

The dissatisfaction with and grumbling against the ruling party on the part of some military personnel were strong enough to be noticeable to outsiders, because the ruling party, having lost its political initiative, was in confusion and bewilderment in handling political issues, including the issue of liquidating the aftermath of the irregularities of the Fifth Republic. Criticisms and complaints about the rapid growth of the procommunist force and the prevalence of violent demonstrations were voiced quite often.

More importantly, sometimes the supreme commander was the open target of these criticisms and complaints, and in a sense, this was really a serious matter.

Open criticisms against the supreme commander could easily be interpreted as the voice of opposition to him, and in fact, those criticisms all the more aggravated the difficult position of the president who was forced on the defensive in the political arena.

Such sarcastic nicknames as "Ho Tae-u" and "Mul Tae-u," [implying President No is good for nothing and lacks backbone], easily slipped out of people's mouths, and this is directly related to the situation described above. In addition, the rumors about an impending crisis, regardless of who the originator of such rumors was and what their target was, were very interesting.

Choe Pyong-uk, commander of the Army Security Command, jokingly said to reporters: "How could it happen when I have my eyes wide open?" This demonstrates how tense the atmosphere was.

When O Hong-kun, chief of the economic department of CHUNG-ANG KYONGJE, was the victim of a terrorist act, a case which had tormented military leaders since last August, some critics even speculated that the internal strife within the military led to the exposure of this case to the public.

They asked, how was it that this act committed by the intelligence command, an organization hardly accessible even to authorities close to the Army, could be exposed so accurately? The fact that Maj Gen Yi Chin-paek (placed on the reserve list) was the brother of Yi Chinsam, Army deputy chief of staff, made that speculation sound all the more plausible.

Particularly, in connection with the Kwangju issue and the controversy over the north policy, there many indications pointing to the truth which the supreme commander could hardly afford to ignore, even though some were mere overt expressions of inner feelings unaccompanied by actual deeds.

The military, which previously showed its firm stand on the Kwangju issue through its booklet "The Truth of That Day," voiced a strong protest, asking "why should the military alone be subject to condemnation?"

They meant to say that the military cannot become a pawn in political negotiations. When Chong Ho-yong, who was the commander of the Special Forces at the time of the Kwangju incident, was singled out as the one who was accountable for the incident, and became the subject of discussion in negotiations between the ruling and opposition parties, the military stiffened its opposition. In the opinion of the military, it was obvious that even if Chong were forced out of power taking the responsibility for the Kwangju incident, it would not settle the matter. The military did not budge, asking why the authorities were handling the matter so "deplorably," and how far it was going to retreat. In other words, in the opinion of the military, if one partner falls, as the saying goes, all of his partners will also fall. The reaction of the military to the north policy, a pet project of President No, was equally far from favorable.

The military pointed out that the pursuit of a hastily drawn policy was fanning the flames of the leftists. But, inwardly the military may have been unhappy about the fact that it was completely left out in the cold in formulating the north policy.

Many people in uniform complained, "What in the world are they going to do?"

Kim Yong-kap and Min Pyong-ton Affairs Provided the Occasion for Recovery of Authority

In the midst of this development, Kim Yong-kap, minister of government administration, suddenly submitted his resignation on 14 March. He said he was resigning, taking the responsibility for the increased support for the leftist. But some interpreted his resignation as an implied protest to the president. Anyway, this "episode" not only sounded an alarm to the opposition parties but also was a shock to the inner circle of the powers that be.

The bombshell statement of Minister Kim, member of the 17th KMA class, whose name is synonymous with the hard-line right wing (this description may be an exaggeration), was not a matter that should be handled lightly.

On 21 March, when the Kim Yong-kap affair was still fresh in the memories of politicians of the opposition and ruling camps alike, as well as the general public, something happened during the KMA commencement ceremony.

Superintendent Min Pyong-ton, whom President No had removed as the commander of the Special Forces and appointed to his present post, did not salute the president and otherwise was amiss as to the protocol of the day. In his speech, Min lamented the current state of affairs, using expressions like "confusion in value judgement" and "fantasies and illusions." His speech was alarming to those present.

He said: "People have such confused perceptions about which are hostile and which are friendly countries that they do not know who our enemy is; this is a strange and worrisome thing." His comments in themselves were not something that would normally become an issue. However, it was extraordinary that he used such expressions in his speech before the president, the defense minister, high-ranking military leaders including the Army chief of staff, and foreign diplomats.

This and other events which occurred in the presence of the supreme commander, who regards the north policy as his foremost achievement, were naturally taken seriously.

When the presidential secretariat made an issue of these events and public opinion became concerned about them, the opinion of the military was divided. Some said that "in view of the peculiar personality of General Min, the kind of the statement in question could easily slip out," "without any hidden meaning." Others say that "he ought to be held accountable for his lack of courtesy in the presence of domestic and foreign dignitaries."

The majority opinion was that both the choice of words and the lack of courtesy could not be lightly overlooked, and that judging from the attendant circumstances, his statement and behavior were not a simple mistake, but stemmed from "a hidden intention."

Immediately after the commencement ceremony, Superintendent Min called on the defense minister and the Army chief of staff to apologize for his erratic behavior. Judging from this, it was difficult to interpret his behavior as a calculated error. But the determination of the president was firm.

The president must have felt the need to unmistakably demonstrate his authority concerning the events involving Minister of Government Administration Kim and General Min. This is in view of public opinion that government organizations, including the police, were not following the orders of the president; it was most urgent to establish official discipline in order to meet the difficulties head-on.

Establishing a System of Direct Control by President No

On 27 March, President No called in Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun and Army Chief of Staff Gen Yi Chong-ku to instruct them to carry out a sweeping personnel reshuffling of the Army. Concerned officials could foresee an impending whirlwind of personnel reshuffle from the facial expressions of these two men the moment they emerged from the Blue House. Their hunch was that the coming reshuffle would be a sweeping one, not just involving those whose terms were soon to expire, including three corps commanders, namely, Generals Song Son-yong, Na Chung-pae, and Yi Tae-hui; and Lt Gen Chang Hon-yol, chief of the Army Procurement Office.

On 28 March, unlike in the past, the government made public the details of the reshuffle. The scope of the reshuffle was immense, involving more than 50 military officers including 20 four- and three- star generals.

The reshuffle was unprecedented in the number of high-ranking generals involved, and it was a megaton-class in content.

The reshuffle included the retirement of Gen Choe Se-chang (13th KMA class), chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Gen Chong Chin-tae (13th KMA class), deputy commander in chief of the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command. On the other hand, Deputy Chief of Staff Lt Gen Yi Chin-sam and Lt Gen Na Chung-pae (15th KMA class) were promoted to the rank of full general and appointed as commander in chief of the 1st Army and as deputy commander in chief of the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command, respectively. Gen Chong Ho-sun (5th class of the old military academy), commander in chief of the 1st Army, was appointed as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Among corps commanders, Lt Gen Sin Mal-yop (16th KMA class) was named as Army deputy chief of staff; Lt Gen Chong Man-kil (15th KMA graduating class) as president of the National Defense College, and Lt Gen Yi Pil-sop (16th KMA class) as superintendent of the KMA. In addition, many of the major generals of the Defense Ministry and the Army Headquarters were promoted and appointed corps commanders.

Lt Gen Kim Chin-yong, commander in chief of the Capital Defense Command, (17th KMA graduating class), was relegated to the post of the commander in charge of education and training as successor to Choe Pyong-uk; and Min Pyong-ton, superintendent of the KMA, was placed on the reserve list. Maj Gen Ku Chang-hoe, chief of staff for personnel at the Army Headquarters, was promoted to lieutenant general and named commander in chief of the Capital Defense Command; and Maj Gen Cho Nam-pung, commander of the Security Command, was promoted, thus paving the way for members of 18th KMA class to become corps commanders for the first time.

However, the crux of this reshuffle, as pointed out by the press in the capital, was the formation of the "system of President No's direct rule."

This is evident from the promotion of Lt Gen Yi Chin-sam to the rank of full general and his appointment as commander of the 1st Army; the appointment of Lt Gen Yi Pil-sop as superintendent of the KMA; and the promotion of Maj Gen Ku Chang-hoe to the rank of lieutenant general and his appointment as commander of the Capital Defense Command. These three have direct connections with President No.

In the case of Gen Yi Chin-sam, commander of the 1st Army, his promotion had been anticipated early on when Yi Min-sok was promoted as commander of the Special Forces. The personnel action involving Lt Gen Yi Pil-sop and Lt Gen Ku Chang-hoe, who were respectively a regimental commander and the chief of staff under No Tae-u when the latter was commander of the 9th Division, was also an important gambit for establishing President No's leadership lineup.

In the case of Lt Gen Yi Pil-sop, his appointment was meant as a preliminary move geared to his future appointment as a ROK Army commander, and it is a factor which will have a functional relationship with a future reorganization of the military establishment.

In fact, the post of the superintendent of the KMA, which used to function as the delivery room for the birth of the highest ranking military leaders, including the defense minister and the Army chief of staff, has been relegated to a sinecure since Gen Kim Pok-tong objected to the 12 December incident [the mutinous arrest of

Martial Law Commander Gen Chong Sung-hwa in 1979, marking the beginning of a coup by Chon Tu-hwan]. The reduced stature of this post became a subject of controversy inside the military.

Kim Pok-tong's successors Hwang In-su, Chi Il-hwan, Choe Mun-kyu, Chang Chun-ik, and up to Min Pyong-ton all served in obscurity. But, with Lt Gen Yi Pil-sop assuming his post as KMA superintendent, it is expected that this post will be upgraded as a key post.

In addition, the promotion of Commander Cho Nam-pung of the Security Command, who was previously included in President No's leadership lineup, to the rank of lieutenant general may be taken as signifying a de facto shelving of the plan to trim the organization of the Security Command. All this indicates that all key posts have been methodically filled mostly with President No's intimate confidants.

The establishment of the system of President No's direct rule has entailed, as expected, the ebbing of the influence of Cholla natives.

Should the Military Come Forward?

The placement in the reserve list of Choe Pyong-uk, commander of the Security Command; and Min Pyong-ton, superintendent of the KMA; and the transfer of Kim Chin-yong, commander of the Capital Defense Command, to the post of commander of Education and Training are typical examples. These three were generally known as "political soldiers," an appellation which is not appropriate. In addition, the transfer of Chong Man-kil, commander of the 5th Army Corps, to the president of the National Defense College, is also indicative of the overall characteristics of the latest reshuffle.

In view of all this, it is overly simplistic and inappropriate to categorically characterize the latest military reshuffle as "firing political soldiers and appointing soldiers belonging to the field army." Even the PPD, [Party for Peace and Democracy] which has been critical of every move of the government, praised the reshuffle, indicating that for the government and the military, the reshuffle was a success for now.

It seems that the unexpected promotion of two major generals hailing from the Honam area, namely, a certain Kim (17th KMA class) and a certain Chon (16th KMA class), as corps commanders, was behind the PPD's favorable comment. On the whole, apparently, care was taken to give regional consideration in the reshuffle.

At the same time, the shift in generation was also an important aspect in the sense that veteran generals who had been deeply involved in politics in the past were made to step down, paving the way for the advancement of the group of officers who have looked askance at the meddling of soldiers in politics.

As an example, we may cite the retirement of Choe Se-chang and Chong Tae-chin, both four-star generals and members of the 13th KMA class, and also the retirement of Lt General Na Pyong-son, member of the 14th KMA class, as president of the National Defense College, although their retirement may have been intended as a preliminary step to consolidate the position of Army Chief of Staff Gen Yi Chong-ku, who is regarded as a favorite candidate for the post of chief of general staff for national defense of the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command.

At any rate, although it is not clear whether the process leading to the 28 March reshuffle was a part of a power struggle or simply a movement toward establishing a new order, it is a fact that President No established his prerogative of supreme command both in name and reality through that reshuffle. Moreover, President No is expected to further consolidate his power base through the annual personnel appointment for division commanders which will take place soon, and through an extensive reshuffle of military personnel accompanying the establishment of a new unified command scheduled for late this year. In addition, the president is expected to try to break through the anticipated political turmoil head-on, banking on the new military order which has been solidly established around the President No-Army Chief of Staff Yi Chong-ku axis.

On the other hand, viewed in this perspective, what attracts the foremost attention is the issue of the neutrality of the military.

At his inaugural press conference, Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun stressed the importance of the military's non-interference in politics and its democratization in these words: "The military will never interfere in politics. The military will neither be able to interfere nor attempt to interfere. Even if it should try to interfere, the people would not condone it, and a military rule won't last even 3 days."

He has characterized this basic policy as the remaking of the Army.

Apart from these remarks of Defense Minister Yi, a majority of the military leaders, from Army Chief of Staff Yi Chong-ku down, time and time again stressed the need for political neutrality, and at one time, even fussed about organizing a political neutrality committee, which later ended in frustration.

Furthermore, this determination of the military is strengthened by the group of young officers who are strongly opposed to the interference in politics by the military. It is further bolstered by the fact that a great many members of the 20th and 21st KMA classes, who are in the vanguard of this group, are now division commanders, the post which may be called the flower of a military career, forming the nucleus of the military.

However, what is noteworthy is the adherence to the principle of political neutrality. Generals, while stressing the importance of noninterference in politics, make it clear that under no circumstances will they tolerate a situation threatening the system of free democracy, namely, an extreme disarray of public order and a swing to the left.

They say: "Under no circumstance will the military involve themselves in politics. Even now, many people are saying, 'what is the military doing?' But they are saying this because they don't understand the military. People now are saying something different from what they used to say in 1980, but they should remember that in those days, there were voices heard everywhere expressing the hope that the military would be called out. But the military has had enough of being the whipping boy. Why should the military do the dirty work only to be vilified? Still, if there was a real move toward the left to the extent of putting the state in danger of being communized, the military would have no alternative but to intervene. In this event, a horrible situation would develop. But, as soon as things settled down, the military would return to their post. The military refuses to be held in contempt, for it has no ulterior motive."

Identifies Itself as the Last Bastion of the Right Wing

This is the view aired by many generals. In a sense, it may represent the firm stand of the military leadership.

Consequently, a clash with the dissident camp, which the military regards as a leftist force, and a force which is expected to expand its influence seems inevitable. The problem is that whether or not the situation is so serious as to endanger national security becomes a subjective decision.

In a nutshell, how the military views the state of affairs and perceives the situation will be the yardstick for determining whether or not it will intervene, and the possibility of intervention always exists. The military professes to be the last bastion of the right wing and stands in the ready, believing that it will eventually have to meet the leftist force face to face; and observers think that this mind-set of the military will be the starting point of any possible "interference in politics" by it.

Some analysts say that for the purpose of forestalling such a contingency, President No has mobilized a maximum police power to launch a concerted attack on violent demonstrators and the leftist force since he announced the indefinite postponement of an interim appraisal of his performance. But no prospect is in sight that the issue of possible intervention of the military in politics is likely to be settled soon. The military even watched with suspicion the "honeymoon" between President No and PPD President Kim Tae-chung before and after the announcement on the postponement of the midterm appraisal.

True, things have changed a lot now that President No is in full control of the military. But one can hardly deny the existence of a spark which could start a fire. In the final analysis, the outcome of President No's efforts to save the difficult situation will determine the future of the new military setup he has built.

However, his more immediate problem is the murky prospect of the political situation.

*** Unfolding of Chon's Role in No's Election**

41070132 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
23 May 89 p 3

[By reporters Cho Myong-ku and Yi Yu-sik]

[Text] Summary of Magazine Article

Let us summarize and give some excerpts from the article on the 29 June [1987] declaration and political funds manipulation that ran in the WOLGAN CHO-SON.

It has been learned that the 29 June declaration does not square with the facts. Consequently, it is a mistake to evaluate No Tae-u the politician and his leadership on the basis of the misrepresented 29 June Declaration.

Events of 18 June 1987: What lifted the June situation to the level of a political crisis was the Pusan demonstrations that broke out that evening. At midnight on that date President Chon Tu-hwan instructed his military high command to prepare for emergency martial law.

Movements of military units were observed in the Seoul suburbs, and on the morning of the 19th hints that martial law would be declared began to emanate from the Chongwadae. But on the evening of the 19th what was announced was not martial law but a warning from the prime minister. In connection with this, a source close to President Chon has disclosed that "The 29 June declaration took shape with the cancellation of the martial law plan."

According to the statement of a Chongwadae adviser and minister, on 20 June President Chon summoned DJP [Democratic Justice Party] Chairman No Tae-u to the Chongwadae and proposed: "Let's accept the direct elections. I'll actively support your election campaign."

At that time Chairman No did not accept the proposal readily, saying "I'm not confident." The following day President Chon again called Chairman No and, like the previous day, spent 3 hours persuading him. Finally a mutual agreement was worked out to accept a direct election system for president and the reinstatement of Kim Tae-chung's political rights—the key points of the 29 June Declaration.

In the week that followed, Chon and No secretly pushed ahead with the formulation of the 29 June declaration. Pak Chol-on—then adviser to the director of the NSP [Agency for National Security Planning]—and a number of DJP National Assemblymen also were involved in the drafting of the declaration but, from the viewpoint of Chon's associates, this has been exaggerated as though they were involved in the conception of the 29 June Declaration.

President Chon left out of the loop key advisers such as Pak Yong-su, Kim Yun-hwan and An Mu-hyok, and pressed ahead with the 29 June Declaration in secret, with, according to a close source at that time, his oldest son, Chae-kuk, playing the role of intermediary. This source stated clearly that: "Chairman No reported to President Chon the draft of the 29 June Declaration in his own handwriting. That draft is now in the possession of President Chon. I understand a memorandum from President Chon instructing No in regard to the 29 June Declaration also has been preserved."

On 27 June (a Saturday), President Chon and Yi Sun-cha left their residence separately for security reasons. The two got together again at a safehouse near the Chongwadae. Their son Chae-kuk had also arrived. In a special room of the safehouse, Chon and No held a secret discussion concerning the 29 June Declaration. Chae-kuk was in attendance and took notes and, of course, that record also has been kept.

A source close to President Chon stated: "President Chon had many qualms as to whether it was right to present the 29 June declaration as Chairman No's work, deceiving the people and history. In the end he rationalized his position by saying that since it was in the interests of the country, the people would understand."

Close associates of Chon who were at his private residence at Yonhui-tong around 11 November of last year had prepared a statement that differed from the apology Chon gave on 23 November: It contained the facts concerning the 29 June declaration and an accounting of the political funds.

It said: "President Chon controlled over 200 billion won in political funds in 1987. He gave candidate No approximately 150 billion won for his presidential campaign. When he left office he turned over 55 billion won to President No. (This money is said to have been spent in the 26 April general elections.) President Chon has retained 8.9 billion won of the political funds."

However, in the statement of apology of 23 November it was announced that the amount of money in the possession of former President Chon was 13.9 billion won. A source met by the investigative reporting team immediately after the statement was released said: "When a request came from President No's side to 'increase [the figure] a little more,' Chon's advisers opposed it. But former-President Chon said, 'Do as they ask,' so the

Chongwadae idea was accepted. Sources close to the Chongwadae said that they would keep this a secret as the fate of the regime hangs on it."

Yet another person concerned said: "At first Chongwadae said they would give him 10 billion won, and asked if he would announce that the figure was 18.9 billion won. The Chon side said, 'We will announce the figure as it actually is.' The Chongwadae side took the position that, 'If you want the public to believe it, the figure has to be more than 10 billion won.' Finally the Chongwadae side added 5 billion won to the figure and made it 13.9 billion won. One of President No's advisers admitted that funding assistance was provided at the time of the presidential elections and 55 billion won in unused political funds were turned over. However, he denies the part about 5 billion won being added to the figure.

Former President Chon had tried to influence the nomination of DJP candidates in the 13th [National Assembly] elections. To avoid this, President No's advisers postponed the general elections from February until April and switched from multiple member election districts to single-member districts—which led to a "minority ruling party and an majority opposition party."

President No's explanation of the 29 June declaration has been changing over time. In an interview with TIME magazine immediately after 29 June he explained that it was entirely his own decision. Afterwards his story moves in the direction of acknowledging former President Chon's role. He says: "I informed President Chon 1 day in advance and pressed him [to accept].... There were consultations, but there was mutual agreement only on direct elections, and President No—at the risk of incurring President Chon's opposition—inserted [into the declaration] the issue of reinstatement of Kim Tae-chung's political rights."

Pak Chol-on's Responses

Presidential Policy Adviser Pak Chol-on was directly involved in the 29 June Declaration of President No Tae-u. He is also the mastermind who, under the direct instructions of then-DJP Chairman No, dreamed up the scenario of drafting and implementing the 29 June declaration. On the morning of 22 May, Adviser Pak refuted the claim that "the 29 June declaration was the creation of Chon Tu-hwan" and for the first time revealed to the Chongwadae press corps the circumstances surrounding that event. A summary of the major contents of Adviser Pak's explanation follows:

Reasons for Making Explanation Public

Strictly speaking, the complete truth about the 29 June declaration is accurately known to only one person—President No. Putting aside matters of what was the background and circumstances and what conversations

where held with former President Chon Tu-hwan and to what extent the dialogue went back and forth, the real situation can be known to only President No, who was the principal. Even former President Chon can interpret it only from one side. Even though I was involved at the working level, I cannot say that I know the whole story. The reason the 29 June declaration has become so controversial is that it was a watershed event in our modern political history. Candidate No gave up his vested rights and said he would honorably accept the verdict of the people. And no one can deny that after that there was a phased takeoff of democratization. Making groundless claims concerning the principal figure behind the decision on the basis of an anonymous person is not the proper attitude to have. Therefore, I would like to explain the background and circumstances of that time.

Background of the Declaration.

In early 1987 the political and social situation was simmering with a sense of crisis: There was a crisscrossing of ideas including a national referendum, forcible passage of a parliamentary cabinet system, and postponement of debate on constitutional reform. And in one sector of the ruling camp they were discussing hardline measures for a sweeping restructuring of the political system. For Chairman No, as the chosen successor, it was a very murky situation at that time. On 24 March 1987 former President Chon gave Chairman No full power to take the lead in constitutional revision. Around the end of March I received a confidential instruction from Chairman No to study a direct election system. At that time I could read in this the feeling that if the constitutional change situation did not go smoothly, his intention might be to choose a direct election system. I got the impression that he felt ambivalent.

Our team (then-NSP Second Special Adviser Pak had formed and managed a separate team of 20 persons within the NSP) set up a kind of phased strategy. To have Chairman No named as the ruling party's next candidate and achieve a peaceful transfer of power, the first stage was to establish as an immutable fact a single term system; the second was to establish Chairman No as the next ruling party candidate; the third was to devise a specific plan for creating the next governmental system. The phased strategy was successful through the 13 April event, the 10 June event (here referring to the decision on candidate No at the party convention), and the 29 June declaration. The 13 April measure was not of our team's making, but at any rate it had the effect of establishing the single term as an immutable fact. (This part of Adviser Pak's explanation is well worth noting for it is a tacit suggestion that ultimately the 13 April event was guided by a high-level political calculation by Chairman No.

Circumstances of the Declaration

Chairman No revealed to me the main contents of the 18 June declaration and instructed me to prepare a draft. Our team (from this time on, for security reasons, the

team was reduced to 3-4 persons including Prosecutor Kang Chae-sop) prepared a detailed schedule and began the work. Candidate No met twice with President Chon—on 22 and 24 June—to discuss the results of Chon's meeting with Kim Yong-sam. That was the only time Candidate No met with former President Chon at the Chongwadae until 29 June.

I don't regard the situation at those meetings as being one in which former-President Chon solicited candidate No to accept a direct election system, which was the main point of the declaration, or Kim Tae-chung's amnesty and restoration of civil rights. But Candidate No previously had used his good offices so that many people who advocated a direct election system were able to meet with President Chon.

I reported on the gist of the declaration on 20 June and the draft of the full text on the evening of 22 June. On the 25th I reported the second draft. No one else was in attendance nor was anyone else involved in the work. Some finishing touches were made on 27 June and we made 50 copies of it. Around 2100 on the 28th we delivered a large-print copy to adviser Yi Pyong-ki (presently protocol secretary). On the evening of 21 June at candidate No's residence there was a heated discussion with party Secretary General Yi Chung-ku, Choe Pyong-yol, Hyon Hong-chu, and Kang Yong-sik over the DJP's intentions. But Candidate No and I put down a smokescreen instead, staking out the position that in the interests of maintaining security, a direct election system was wrong.

Candidate No had already instructed me on 18 June to draw up a draft declaration and around the 19th he publicly commented to the effect that "I have no yearning desire for position." I don't know what Candidate No said when he met with President Chon after that, but at that time his mind was made up. If President Chon accepted the direct election system he would have been praised, so why didn't the Chongwadae insist on announcing the fact?

I was assigned to the NSP but I believed that in order to do an honest job, I should not be bound by the organization system I belonged to. The then-NSP Director An Mu-hyok reported all intelligence to President Chon, but I get the feeling that he had prior knowledge at the final moment of the action on the declaration. My interpretation is that he had already judged that he could not restrain Candidate No's decisive step and so he was supporting Candidate No's point of view—that is to say, helping him.

Impact of Publicity and Political Parties' Reaction

With the articles in some publications dealing with the prime mover of the 29 June Declaration, the political funds produced by former-President Chon Tu-hwan, and the circumstances surrounding the unused funds he turned over when he went into seclusion at Paektam

Temple, the political world is quiet, but feeling sharp internal pain. When the two main points of the uproar—"The 29 June declaration was the work of Chon Tu-hwan" and "5 billion won of the political funds turned in by Chon before he went into seclusion at Paektam Temple were provided by the Chongwadae"—arose, they became the object of public controversy. Since it resurfaced on the heels of an agreement on Chon Tu-hwan's public testimony that was hammered out by the 14-man "political heavyweights" conference, it has been once again hotly debated and become an even more delicate problem. In view of the explosive nature of the problem, the ruling and opposition parties are showing a prudent reaction on the surface, but the opposition parties are taking the position that when Chon testifies they must get to the bottom of the problem. The government, however, seems to be assessing that should public opinion begin to flare up based on speculation, the vulnerable government will become even more vulnerable, so there is a tendency to want to confine the handling of the problem to the framework of the testimony.

The Chongwadae is reacting very cautiously to reports concerning the circumstances surrounding Chon Tu-hwan's unused political funds and the 29 June Declaration. Sources at the Chongwadae informed the press on Sunday, 21 May, that some points that have appeared in the press do not square with the facts. And on the 22d, policy adviser Pak Chol-on personally came forward and kicked off a campaign to publicly reveal the true facts of the 29 June declaration.

As of 22 May, President No Tae-u had not yet commented officially on these reports. "I think that for the time being President No will not have any comment to make concerning these matters," a source close to him reports. "He seems to be trying to hold in his displeasure that this kind of talk is going around."

However, after a senior secretaries meeting with President No in attendance scheduled for that morning, close associates of the president carefully deliberated this matter and set forth their opinion that Pak Chol-on, who was involved in the 29 June declaration, should personally come forward and explain to the press the circumstances and background of the events of that time.

On the other hand, Chongwadae spokesman Yi Su-chong said in regard to the 29 June Declaration: "This business of who did or did not make the 29 June Declaration, in a word, is like the story of Columbus and the logic of the question of who really crossed the Atlantic Ocean. What is important is who carried out the 29 June declaration, so it is inappropriate to argue pro and con about something that is already water under the bridge."

With respect to the political funds part of the issue, Adviser Pak said: "It doesn't make sense to have Yi Yang-u, the agent for that side to verify it.... To comment

anonymously is just plain nonsense, and when it comes to political funds, whether its the ruling party or the opposition party, it's an unwritten law that you just don't bring it up."

As soon as spurious arguments over the 29 June Declaration and the suspicions about political funds surfaced inopportunely, the DJP appeared perplexed and rejected them as "having no basis in fact."

The DJP held a party officials meeting and a party caucus on the morning of 22 May and discussed in depth countermeasures for dealing with this problem. They were intent on putting out the fire, since there was a possibility that particularly the issue of the amount of Chon's political fund donations could generate questions concerning President No Tae-u's presidential election funds and the 26 April General Election funds.

DJP key officials explain confidently that, "The 29 June declaration was a one-man show based on the decision of President No." But their equivocal attitude of "We don't know anything about it" concerning the political funds issue is attracting notice.

That is, DJP officials claim: "The whole nation knows that the 29 June Declaration was a lonely decision made based on concerns about national salvation and a responsibility to history," (Chairman Pak Chun-kyu). "A singlehanded decision by Chairman No had been possible because he had carte blanche after the June 1987 party congress (when the successor decision was made)," (Secretary General Yi Chong-chan).

With regard to the political funds part of the issue, however, they could not conceal a feeling of embarrassment, and were unable to offer a clear-cut refutation. Even Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan would neither confirm nor deny the allegations: "I served as former President Chon's chief secretary, but I know nothing about the political funds part of it."

The DJP side feels suspicious that such a story would make the rounds at this juncture when the ruling and opposition "heavyweights" conference is discussing the problem of closing the accounts of the Fifth Republic.

Party executives seem to be laying the responsibility for the incident on Chon's associates, who are displeased with the ruling party because of [Chon's] impending National Assembly testimony. In this connection, one party executive said, "I understand that Chon's close aides are unhappy with former President Chon's giving open testimony before the National Assembly." He speculated that "Recently former President Chon's associates have met on several occasions and are denouncing the government and ruling party, so it looks like they are leaking things to the press."

Concerning the matter of former President Chon's donation of 13.9 billion won in unused political funds to the state, however, one party source says: "I understand that former President Chon's side at first printed the draft of his statement of apology with a space left blank for the amount of surplus political funds. Then that evening (22 November 1988) the figure '13.9 billion won' was belatedly added upon instructions of a certain agency. In particular, the Yonhui-tong [Chon Tu-hwan's] people claimed there was only less than [10] billion won in surplus political funds, but the Chongwadae negotiating team said that 'We must make it more than 10 billion won.'" And he notes that this was used to support the "truth" of the suspicion concerning the figure of 13.9 billion won in unused political funds donated to the state.

The PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy], while showing concern and interest in the press reports about the 29 June Declaration and the political funds, has not yet shown any official reaction on the party level. This issue was not even discussed officially at the regular party board of governors meeting on 22 May.

Their position was merely that, after listening to the ruling camp's response at the "heavyweights" meeting as to the veracity of the allegations, they will try to ascertain the specifics through Chon's National Assembly testimony.

Nonetheless—irrespective of the truth of the reports—the PPD has its antenna up because of the timing of the articles. This is because the details of the news stories—which aim at President No's Achilles heel—come at a time when Chon's testimony has been considered a foregone conclusion as a result of the agreements made at the "heavyweights" conference. According to a source in the PPD, "It would appear that with the testimony close at hand this is a veiled attempt to restrain excessive demands from President No's side in advance, rather than an intention to fatally wound President No."

As soon as the report appeared, the PPD reaction was that this would make it even more difficult to genuinely close the books on the Fifth Republic. This is because they see that this report could impact directly or indirectly not just on the Chon testimony, but even on the issue of dealing with Assemblyman Chong Ho-yong, which the PPD is pursuing as its top-priority task in clearing the books on the Fifth Republic.

The RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] sees the resurgence of questions about the 29 June Declaration as grist for further stirring up the pot in advance of Chon's National Assembly testimony. Also, their attitude is that inasmuch as the issue of dealing with key personalities of the Fifth Republic has surfaced as a point of controversy in the "heavyweights" conference at this juncture, the party will stir up public opinion toward the matter of political funds in particular.

The RDP's position is to watch closely the impact the situation has on political actors—who are busily staking out their positions—rather than to take a positive approach to get at the truth of the matter or to raise it as a political controversy.

This reaction is indeed because the parts that are at issue have already been accepted as established facts in the form of "rumors" or "rehash," but as one party executive puts it: "I don't know why this has erupted out of the blue on the eve of Chon's National testimony as if it were a new story."

This source says: "Weren't there even worse stories than these making the rounds about the time of the 29 June Declaration, and when Chon made his apology and went into seclusion?" He took a prudent attitude, saying: "If the rumors on the street are proved through the testimony of Chon or persons concerned, the legitimacy of the present government, which is hanging by a thread, will be destroyed, but its a problem we will have to keep an eye on."

Judging from the fact that—according to later comments—this matter was not even brought up at the expanded staff meeting on 22 May, the RDP's attitude seems to be that it is hard to regard this incident in itself as a blessing for the opposition. Furthermore, there seems to be a feeling that should the repercussions spread, the issue of political funds could even become a hot potato for the opposition parties as well.

The NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party], while bearing in mind the significance that charges such as these will have on the overall political situation, stresses that it is imperative that they be covered in some fashion in Chon's testimony.

Inasmuch as Chon's National Assembly testimony is regarded as a virtual certainty, the party plans to pursue these issues through questions during his testimony based on the principle that the testimony must not be given selectively.

If former-President Chon's National Assembly testimony is no more than an inevitable "rite of passage" in closing the books on the Fifth Republic, then it serves as moral justification for the position that, after all, the government cannot continue to turn away from the problems of the previous era that must be dealt with.

Even though this policy is the result of formal discussions held by the NDRP at an official party meeting on 22 May, indeed a number of party officials have their sensitive feelers out, saying that, "This seems to prove that former President Chon's side is somewhat displeased concerning his testimony."

*** Four Party Senior Members Hold May Meeting**
41070134 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
27 May 89 p 3

[Article by Kim Su-chong: "Results of a 10-Day Meeting of the Four Party Senior Members"]

[Text] The conference among 14 senior members of the ruling and the opposition parties "successfully" ended on 26 May after 10 meetings.

Contrary to an initial pessimistic view from the public and the political parties, the conference played an important role in bringing potentially explosive issues, which might have caused a crisis, such as the legislation controlling Molotov cocktail manufacture and an agreement on the government's investigation of the death of Yi Chol-kyu [a radical student leader of Chonnam University], into the National Assembly. The agreement on the implementation schedule of the local autonomy system and on the amendment of the political funds law should also be considered valuable in the sense that they were issues to be resolved by political circles, even though there are still some associated problems.

The cleanup of the issues related to the Fifth Republic, however, still remain unresolved. It is too difficult a problem to be resolved by the four party senior members. The suggestion to have the two former presidents, Chon Tu-hwan and Choe Kyu-ha, as witnesses is commendable.

It is a general opinion of political circles that it is not right to criticize the conference just because they did not resolve the "Kwangju" issue.

In fact, the meeting of the four party senior members is not the normal form of legislative management. Although there are Standing Committees and Special Committees established by law on specific issues, these important political issues were discussed at the meeting of the four party senior members. To be specific, the issue of the Fifth Republic cleanup should have been dealt with by the Special Committees concerned with the Fifth Republic and the Kwangju incident; and the legislation restricting the availability of materials used to make Molotov cocktails and the local autonomy law, by the Home Affairs Committee; and the issues of general resignation of the cabinet or the political party leaders' meeting, by the floor leaders.

The fact that these important issues were politically dealt with by the ad hoc senior members' meeting is due to the fact that the negotiations among party floor leaders or policymakers have not functioned because each party's boss controls policy decisions from a distance, and because of the limitation in the power of the special and standing committees. In other words, since the issues came up out of the normal political process, dealing with them in an ad hoc manner might be more effective.

Another aspect of the meeting's success is that it consists of all of the core members or those who are influential in decisionmaking from the four parties; and they have felt responsible for the meeting and confident about its outcome. Since three of the four highest ranking senior members sat next to one another and carried out the negotiation, they were able to easily adjust the agenda of the meeting.

For example in the past, they have frequently made an abrupt change of mind over the issues agreed on by the floor leaders, just because the party's top leaders did not like the agreement. In this senior members' meeting, however, such incidents were not likely to happen.

The legislation of the political funds law, which has failed several times in the past, was easier just because it was dealt with by the four party senior members. If it were discussed by the officials in charge, they would have avoided discussing real issues out of concern for the people's opinion, regardless of the results. In the senior members' meeting, however, all of the issues were discussed in a broader perspective. The possibility of an individual being criticized was certainly reduced.

The senior members' meeting has established an unprecedented cooperative system among the four major political parties, including the ruling party.

The success of the meeting was partially attributed to the people's antipathy to violence resulting from the violence of Tongui University students.

The negotiations between the ruling and the opposition parties in the 13th National Assembly used to be held in two-step meetings with the three major opposition parties meeting among themselves prior to meeting with the ruling party. These meetings have been very inefficient. Even the top level meetings as well as the working level committee meetings followed the same pattern.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) showed their satisfaction at the outcome of the meeting.

It is the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) who first proposed the senior members' meeting, but it is the DJP who benefited most from it. The DJP was able to pass an antiviolence law with the opposition parties' cooperation. The DJP was also able to avoid being attacked politically on the sensitive issue of the original source of the "29 June announcement" because the opposition parties' made efforts to see that the meeting remained friendly.

The DJP believes they were able to accomplish about 80 percent of their goal.

The main reason for the success of this meeting, however, is due to the RDP's active participation. The RDP originally proposed this meeting during a worsening political situation caused by the bribery scandal of assemblymen [Tonghe incident] as a means of clearing

the political air. The RDP also intended to control the increasing political influence of the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) and the New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP). The DJP, on the other hand, took advantage of the opportunity to resolve many political issues and to understand the structure of the cooperation system among the three opposition parties.

In fact, the PPD and the NDRP did not give priority to this meeting. Instead, they considered this meeting to be an intermediate step toward the party leaders' meeting.

Since the PPD had high expectations for the meeting between No Tae-u and Kim Tae-chung on the Kwangju issue, they were very cooperative on other issues. For the major issues related to the Fifth Republic, however, they insisted on fundamental principles. Considering the PPD's unique situation in that the party should consider the emotional feeling of the people in Kwangju, the PPD's major concern had to be on the meeting between No and Kim. The NDRP was not keen on the senior members' meeting from the beginning, because they might lose their opportunity to exercise their influence in the traditional two-step negotiation procedure [one among the three opposition parties and the other between the ruling party and the three opposition parties]. In effect, however, the NDRP was equally influential in this meeting.

Among the issues resolved at the senior members' meeting, the following three are considered to be the most significant: the legislation restricting materials used to manufacture Molotov cocktails, the agreement on the time table for the local autonomy rule, and the agreement on the subpoena of the two former presidents, Chon Tu-huan and Choe Kyu-ha. The agreement on adopting a resolution in the National Assembly's general session for denouncing illegality and violence and leaving the general resignation of the cabinet to the government are the DJP's extra accomplishments. As for the Konganhapsubu [Joint Public Security Investigation Bureau] and the construction of the new city, they deserve credit in at least touching on the problem.

The issues related to the medical insurance law, the national security law, and the problem of reducing the farmers' and fishermen's debt might take substantial time, since each party has vastly different points of view.

At the end of the meeting, the 14 senior members from the 4 parties made a joint announcement on "stabilizing the political situation" which read in the beginning, "We promise to put an end to the current political situation represented by special committees [handling various issues related to the Fifth Republic] as soon as possible and to put our talents to work in advancing toward the 21st century." In order to put an end to the politics of special-committees, however, the four leaders of the

"One No-Three Kims Meeting," which originally agreed on establishing various special committees only a year ago should meet again to make a decision to put an end to them.

If we think back over our parliamentary politics bespeckled with struggles between the ruling and the opposition parties, there has been no legislature that has resolved more issues than the 13th National Assembly. Since suppressed desires have burst out all at once, it is difficult for the political circles to handle them all properly, and they should not be judged too harshly.

*** Rumors of 'May Crisis' Investigated**

41070126 Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean
14 May 89 pp 14-17

[Article by U Chong-chang: "Widespread Rumors of May Crisis; Range From an Imminent Political Reorganization to an Economic Catastrophe"]

[Excerpt] DJP Reacts Sensitively to President No's Remarks on the Golf Course

Customarily, each year "rumors of a May crisis" crop up and soon disappear, and this year is no exception. These rumors always cause uneasiness. The strange rumors currently floating in the streets are groundless, and nobody knows where they originated. Nevertheless, many people are disturbed because they spread very rapidly and appear to be plausible.

The rumors of a May crisis currently circulating among political circles and in the stock market may be roughly divided into six categories, namely, rumors of a political reorganization, an economic catastrophe, a security crisis, a coup d'etat, President No's imminent resignation, and a currency reform.

Of these, the rumors concerning a coup, the president's resignation, and currency reform are based on subintelligence-level information and their force is waning as time goes by. On the other hand, the rumors about a political reorganization, an economic catastrophe, and a security crisis are still gaining ground.

The most plausible of the rumors of a May crisis is a political reorganization. The rumor is that the ruling camp, in an effort to overcome its minority status in the National Assembly [Yoso Yadae], will try to form a coalition with some opposition party, and that if this effort fails, it will strongly advocate that the three Kims retire from politics because of their inability to break up the political impasse; and as a result, a cabinet form of government will replace the current system sooner or later, accompanied by a realignment of politicians. According to the rumor, while the opposition camp reorganizes itself, the ruling camp for its part will carry out a sweeping personnel reshuffle, including the office of the Executive Office of the President.

As evidence in support of this speculation, some politicians point out that there has been an acute confrontation between the government authorities and the RDP [Reunification Democratic Party].

A joint Public Security investigation team probing into the case of Reverend Mun's North Korea visit notified RDP President Kim Yong-sam on 29 April of its intention to question him as a witness in connection with the fact that he had been informed in advance by Yu Won-ho, who is currently in detention, of Mr Yu's plan to visit North Korea. On 1 May the First Department of the Seoul District Public Prosecutor's Office summoned Mr Kim to appear at the prosecutor's office at 10 am on 3 May for questioning as a witness, in connection with the "vote" buying case in the Tonghae City recall election.

The RDP successively held an enlarged executive board meeting and a joint meeting of the political affairs committee and RDP National Assembly members on 1 and 2 May to discuss this summons. It finally decided not to respond to the summons on the grounds that the intended investigation of RDP President Kim is part of a political scheme to destroy the RDP.

RDP Vice President Hwang Myong-su said: "The DJP [Democratic Justice Party] has proposed a coalition with us on many occasions, but each time our party has categorically spurned it. On the issue of the interim appraisal of President No's performance, our party has chosen the right path in disputing the intentions of the government and the ruling party. That is why they have launched a move to sabotage our party." He showed a resolute determination to safeguard the RDP, the orthodox opposition party.

RDP Chief Secretary So Chong-won said that "the series of moves made by the government since the indefinite postponement of the interim appraisal of President No's performance resemble closely what transpired in the last days of the Yusin rule, namely, the stripping of President Kim's National Assembly seat, and the Pusan-Masan incident." Vice President Kim Hyon-kyu and Floor Leader Choe Hyong-u, National Assembly members Pak Yong-man, Sin Sang-u, and Pak Kwan-yong also said that "it appears that as an initial goal in its attempt to end the minority status of the ruling party in the National Assembly, the government has launched an operation to sabotage the RDP."

"That Man May Be Out of His Mind," an Open Complaint About Kim Yong-sam

That the RDP terms the prosecution's summons served to President Kim as an attempt to "sabotage the party" or a "political maneuver" against the RDP, represents a judgment reached on the basis of information the party gathered and disseminated. According to other information gathered by the RDP, President No Tae-u is "very

much displeased" with RDP President Kim Yong-sam, and because of this ill feeling, the "operation to squeeze the RDP to death" has been launched.

In this connection, a senior RDP parliamentarian had this to say: "Around the middle of April, President No invited cabinet members in charge of economic affairs to a golf game at Taenung. After the game was over, the president bluntly said to one of the ministers: 'You know RDP President Kim very well, don't you? Why has he lately been acting as he has?' Faced with this sudden question, the minister, without realizing the president's real intention in asking such a question, replied, matter of factly, that 'if the government knows how to handle the opposition parties, won't they follow the lead?'"

"To that the parliamentarian continued, raising his voice and looking displeased, President No said: 'Why is he (Kim Yong-sam) going around making idle talk these days?' According to information obtained by our party, on the same occasion, President No further expressed his displeasure with RDP President Kim: 'I hear that when he (Kim Yong-sam) went down to Tonghae City, he bragged about having driven Presidents Syngman Rhee and Pak Chong-hui out of power, and that he was the one who forced President Chon out of office. Also that my fate depends on how he makes up his mind. Don't you think he is out of his mind?'"

The same key RDP parliamentarian said: "Judging from President No's remarks, the series of developments—such as the arrest of former RDP Secretary General So Sok-chae, the accusation that RDP spokesman Yi In-che bribed a DJP candidate, the case of National Assemblyman Sim Wan-ku, the investigation of RDP President Kim—is part of the plot to destroy the RDP, and this is the view prevailing within the RDP."

The truth of the remarks allegedly made by President No on the Taenung golf course has not been confirmed. The view that "President No harbors an unpleasant feeling toward RDP President Kim" is commonly shared by RDP officials. However, they are divided as to in what form this ill feeling has been expressed.

A few days after President No supposedly made the remarks on the Taenung golf course, an RDP parliamentarian named P asked RDP President Kim privately, "Have you ever said that the fate of the president depends on you?" Kim is quoted as having categorically denied the report, saying, "I have never said such a thing."

In this connection, after the 1 May RDP executive meeting was over, RDP President Kim met a group of some key RDP parliamentarians, and during this meeting, he reportedly admitted that National Assemblyman P had asked him about President No's Taenung remarks, stressing that he had flatly denied the allegation.

The problem is that many members of the RDP believe President No's unconfirmed Taenung remarks to be true. This means that their sense of crisis is of their own making.

This sense of crisis is manifesting itself in the form of "restlessness" within the RDP. The chairmen of RDP local chapters which have never elected RDP candidates to the National Assembly and which are located in constituencies dominated by the DJP are outspokenly expressing their complaints to the party leadership. Rumors are leaking out that some of them are even openly contacting Kim Pok-tong, brother-in-law of President No. In addition, some party officials are being loudly criticized for being too engrossed in expanding their personal organizations instead of working for the party. Key RDP officials are not denying the internal restlessness of their party.

In the final analysis, rumors of an impending political reorganization are spreading fueled by President No's alleged Taenung remarks and the resultant sense of crisis within the RDP.

Another development which is drawing attention in connection with the rumors of an imminent political reorganization is the move to organize a new party. Talk about such a move is more than a vague rumor, and considerable work toward this end is said to be underway.

In Case of Simultaneous, Widespread Unrest, Police Are Not Sufficient To Control It

A man who is participating in the work of organizing a new party said that this work is "led by a PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy] vice president, an RDP vice president, and one or two independent parliamentarians," adding that the new party will take shape in June if things go well, in July at the latest."

This same man declined to say whether or not the emergence of a move to form a new party has anything to do with the rumor of a political reorganization. But he asserted that "one thing is clear: there will be a strong demand that the three Kims retire from politics."

Along with the rumor about an imminent political reorganization, a rumor is spreading of a possible security crisis. This rumor is spreading among the military, the police authorities, and in the financial community. It is based on a belief that the continuing labor disputes and frequent campus demonstrations are approaching a level at which they may tempt the North to invade the South. This rumor is a direct result of anxiety over getting through the month of May without mishap. This is the month which has been marred in the past by many incidents, such as the "16 May," "17 May," and "18 May" incidents.

What has attracted public attention in connection with the rumor of a security crisis is a gathering in early April of military leaders and leading journalists. At this gathering, military leaders, including frontline commanders, made remarks indicative of a greater sense of anxiety than ever before.

Anxiety on the part of police authorities was at least as intense as that felt by the military. The National Police Headquarters, on 15 April, issued a Category-A alert to police throughout the country in order to cope with the antiestablishment disturbances, including street clashes and wage disputes, that are expected to spread in May and June. Authorities within the National Police Headquarters have confessed that police would be able to cope with separate labor disputes in Ulsan, Changwon, and possibly some other places, but if labor disputes should be widespread and simultaneous, the police would be powerless. At the national meeting of local chief detectives held at the Detective Division of the National Police Headquarters on 27 April, the same fears were aired and there was even a suggestion that soldiers assume part of the police duty for public security in order to cope with such a contingency.

Barely Honored a 20-Million Won Bad Check; Time of Zero Net Profit Feared

Recently, under orders from the Joint Public Safety Investigation Committee, the National Police Headquarters has secretly begun a preventive detention of student and labor activists on the blacklist in an effort to forestall troubles. However, the police are unanimous in pointing out that they are exhausted by their efforts to maintain public peace and crack down on disturbances.

A source at the National Police Headquarters said: "Top officials state with assurance that any street demonstration can be put down by mobilizing 10,000 or 20,000 policemen, but the police are completely exhausted." He added that "some policemen hesitate to go out to demonstration scenes where firebombs fly, for fear of getting injured."

The same source said: "Prior to suppressing the recent riot at the Hyundai Heavy Industries Ulsan plant, some police officers voiced fears that 'we might become a political scapegoat.' When the incident involving RDP Assemblyman Sim Wan-ku occurred, nearly 5,000 policemen submitted their resignations." This, the same source said, has something to do with the uneasiness within the police.

Field-grade military officers, like police officers, are reportedly feeling uneasy. One major, a Military Academy graduate stationed in the capital zone, pointed out that his salary is less than even that of a hotel cook, adding that "I have recently begun to feel like resigning from the service." He said that voices are rising, mainly

among field grade officers with a Military Academy background, demanding measures for adequate retirement when they are placed on the reserve list. He said, with a sarcastic look, "When field grade officers get together, they often end up jokingly asking, 'What about buying our wives red pants?'" (A reference to the rumor that Mrs Yi Sun-cha [the wife of former President Chon Tu-hwan] wore red pants when she went around speculating in real estate.)

Against the background of rumors about a security crisis, the financial community is fearful of a possible economic catastrophe. At a recent management meeting, the head of a well known conglomerate expressed his concern with these words: "It appears that North Korea is making ominous moves, and in addition there is the possibility that the economy may go bankrupt."

It is evident everywhere that in the face of the rumor concerning an economic crisis, the financial community is fighting hard to stave off economic catastrophe. The H automobile company, a leading auto maker in our country, was unable to pay employees' salaries on time, and rumor has it that the K electric wire company managed to honor a 20-million won check late in the evening.

An executive of the Pungsan group pointed out that "all large firms in our country, except the Ssongyong, Tusan, and Kolon groups, are involved in labor disputes." He noted that "most of the firms except these three are nervous about the size of the red ink at the end of this year."

A department chief of the Samsung group confided to this reporter that "the Samsung group raised wages as much as 80 percent last year and this year to forestall strikes," adding that "with all its net profit diverted to cover these wage increases, the Samsung group is in such great financial straits that it may soon enter a period of zero net profit." According to his analysis, the fact that the Samsung group is pressing its affiliates hard to adopt an independent accounting system may have something to do with its deteriorating financial position.

At a 25 April DJP Central Executive Committee meeting, Assemblyman Kim Hyon-kuk asked Labor Minister Chang Yong-chol, who was also present at the meeting, "do you know anything about the rumor circulating that the Chongnyon [General Association of Korean Residents in Japan] and third-country firms are providing funds to dissident groups in order to bankrupt our economy?" This question is indicative of the misgivings among political circles about the state of the economy.

As of this moment, it is still difficult to determine whether the rumors of a May crisis are the results of exaggerated minor signs or whether a crisis is really in the making according to a "prewritten scenario." [message omitted]

Burma

Aung San Suu Kyi Placed Under House Arrest

BK2107091389 Hong Kong AFP in English 0905 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Rangoon, July 21 (AFP)—Burma's most prominent opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, 44, has been placed under house arrest for a period of one year, a military spokesman said here Friday.

Spokesman Kyaw Sann said that another opposition leader, former General Tin U, 66, has also been put under one-year house arrest.

Aung San Suu Kyi, the daughter of Burma's founding father Aung San, and Tin U are both leaders of the National League for Democracy (NLD).

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has been placed under house arrest under "a law protecting the state from destructionists," U Kyaw Sann, the chief spokesman for the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), said.

SLORC is the official name for the military government that seized power in September last year putting an end to a nationwide pro-democracy movement.

U Kyaw Sann said that both NLD leaders were charged with sowing dissension within the military and for deliberately nurturing hatred for the military in the minds of the people.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Mr Tin U have been rendered incommunicado to the outside world with only immediate family members allowed to leave their respective residence compounds under guard.

"However, the family members allowed outside may not contact foreign embassies, political parties or those having contact with political parties," the spokesman said.

People from outside may not contact them "in person or by other indirect means," U Kyaw Sann said, adding that telephone lines to their homes had been cut.

Tin U Also Put Under House Arrest

BK2107103889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1025 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Yangon, July 21 (AFP)—Burma's most prominent political leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, 44, has been put under house arrest for one year under a law protecting the state from "destructionists," a military spokesman told reporters at a press conference here Friday.

The chief spokesman of the Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), U Kyaw Sann, in an official confirmation of Thursday's move, said former General Tin U, 66, had also been put under house arrest for a year with the same charge.

SLORC is the official name for the military government that seized power in Burma in September last year to put an end to a nationwide pro-democracy movement.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the daughter of Burma's founding father Aung San, and Gen. Tin U are the top leaders of the National League for Democracy, the main political party opposing the military under General Saw Maung, 61.

Both were charged with sowing dissension within the military and for deliberately nurturing hatred for the military in the minds of the people, the spokesman said.

Under the provisions of a 1975 act to protect the state from "destructive elements," Aung San Suu Kyi and Gen. Tin U are confined to their Yangon [Rangoon] homes.

Both have been rendered incommunicado to the outside world with only immediate family members allowed to leave the residence compounds under guard.

"However, the family members allowed outside may not contact foreign embassies, political parties or those having contact with political parties," the spokesman said.

Those from outside may not contact them "in person or by other indirect means," he said, adding that all telephone lines to the two residences have been cut.

Medical facilities for their health would be provided by the state, U Kyaw Sann said.

(Bangkok-based diplomats citing cables received from the Burmese capital have said that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was put under house arrest Thursday morning).

The military spokesman cited numerous instances in which the two opposition leaders had deliberately "sowed dissension to split the army" and made accusations against the military to "create hatred".

"Aung San Suu Kyi accused the military of being fascists with the intention of making the people hate the military," U Kyaw Sann said.

The spokesman also accused her of "demoralising the soldiers so they would lose the heart for fighting."

He said Gen. Tin U had also falsely accused the military of inhuman acts and malpractices in many instances during his campaign trips and at press conferences.

U Kyaw Sann accused Gen. Tin U of having stated that promised general elections to be held by May next year would not be free and fair.

"Although the majority of the political parties have shown complete understanding of the military's sincerity, the two political leaders had insulted the goodwill of

the military and increased the momentum of their confrontation with the result that the military was obliged to take action to protect the interest of the state and its people," he said.

The NLD will continue to be allowed to function as a political party, he said, but this would be "re-considered" if they "continue with their confrontations".

The SLORC Information Committee Friday invited resident military attaches and foreign embassy officials to view documents and evidence, especially on a bomb incident on July 7 which the military government has connected to the NLD.

The military government has said that three members of the NLD youth wing were responsible for the bomb which killed two people and wounded another on the outskirts of Yangon.

"We feel you will be more convinced if you can see the evidence at first hand," the military spokesman told the envoys.

He however refused to answer questions other than those concerned with the documents, saying official statements on "recent developments" would be released soon.

Under the anti-state law, the period of detention for the two NLD leaders may be extended to three years.

"Whether or not the detention time would be reduced or increased depends entirely on the accused," SLORC Information Committee member Colonel Aung Thein told AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE.

There has been no immediate reactions following the arrests.

NLD sources said only Aung San Suu Kyi, one of her two sons and two elderly relatives remained with her in her residence.

Forty-two persons, including her personal secretary and youths acting as her security guards were removed during curfew time Thursday night, they said.

The 42 are expected to be released after questioning, they said.

A dusk to dawn curfew is in force in Burma since the September 18 military takeover.

U Kyaw Sann said the arrests have been made to "prevent further deterioration of conditions which could adversely affect elections or bring back anarchy to the country."

(Travelers to Bangkok Friday from Yangon said there were roadblocks manned by soldiers near Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's house.

(An American who asked not to be named said that on Thursday he drove by the house and heard Aung San Suu Kyi giving a speech in Burmese on loudspeakers.

(He said his driver identified the voice as that of the opposition leader.

(It was not clear if she was talking live or if it was a tape but the American said the loudspeakers were blaring after she had been arrested.)

Council Announces Reduction of Prison Terms

BK2007153089 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Jul 89

["Order No 4/89 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, dated 20 July—the 3d day of the waning moon of Waso, 1351 Burmese era"]

[Text] 1. The State Law and Order Restoration Council issues this order with due consideration for the welfare of the nationals serving prison sentences passed by the law courts concerned, as well as for other nationals under trial for their offenses before law courts.

Reducing the sentences of those serving prison terms:

2. Those legally tried for an offense on and prior to 18 September 1988, and who are still serving the sentences on the date this order is issued, shall have their sentences reduced as follows:

- A. Death sentence is commuted to life sentence.
- B. Life sentence is reduced to 10 years imprisonment.
- C. Prison terms are reduced to one-third of the original term plus the right to enjoy ordinary grace period and reduction.

3. Those tried on or before 18 September 1988, and who still have to serve 2 more years or less on the date this order is issued, shall be released from prison on their own pledge. If this pledge is breached, the remainder of the prison term will have to be served.

4. Being released on a pledge under Paragraph 3 shall not relate to the reduction under Paragraph 2C.

Criminal cases still under trial:

5. Criminal cases which were tried on or before 18 September 1988 and which are still being heard shall be closed, and defendants shall be released immediately.

However, if a person to whom injustice had been done does not wish to close the case involving either murder or rape, or harm caused to a person, or the loss of private

property, he may submit an application to the court concerned by 22 September 1989 indicating that he does not wish to close the said case. The court shall then proceed with the hearing.

6. A person harmed means only the legal wife, husband, and their children.

7. The ruling under Paragraph 5 shall not apply to cases tried for high treason and under the Unlawful Association Act or the Emergency Act, as well as criminal cases which were directly applied to court for hearing.

8. This order shall have the force of law. Signed: General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council

Deadline Set for Requesting Printing Exemption
BK1907035589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Jul 89

[Directive No 39 of the Printers and Publishers Registration Central Committee of the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs issued on 18 July—the 1st day of the waning moon of Waso, Burmese era 1351]

[Text] 1. It was mentioned in Order No 3/89 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council dated 27 June 1989 that organizations which have been registered with the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections and with the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs wishing to publish pamphlets, books, and publications shall apply for exemption under the Printers and Publishers Registration Law of 1962.

2. Those applied for the exemption have been issued with exemption cards since 29 June 1989 by the Scrutiny and Registration Division.

3. The Scrutiny and Registration Division in addition to the task mentioned above has its departmental duties to be discharged on time and has reminded the registered organizations to apply for exemption by the 25th of this month at the latest.

4. The organizations officially registered with the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections and the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs wishing to apply for exemptions to publish pamphlets, books, and publications are therefore reminded to submit their applications to the Scrutiny and Registration Division before the deadline of 25 July 1989.

5. Organizations which apply for exemption after 25 July 1989 will not be issued with the exemption card.

[Signed] Major General Phone Myint, minister

Commission Deregisters Political Party

BK2007142389 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Jul 89

["Announcement No 259 of the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar, dated 20 July—3d day of the waning moon of Waso, 1351 Burmese era"]

[Text] Subject: Deregistration of the Union Democracy Unity Organization, UDUO, as a political party.

The Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] announced today that the UDUO, which has its headquarters at No 2, Hledan 6th Street, No 3 Ward, Kamayut Township, Yangon [Rangoon] Division, was permitted registration as a political party by the commission in accordance with Article 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was stated in Announcement No 241 of 28 February 1989.

However, a unanimous decision was made by all of the UDUO Central Executive Committee members, including the chairman and the general secretary, to request the deregistration of the party. Hence, the Elections Commission hereby announces the deregistration of the UDUO effective 20 July 1989.

Signed: By the authority vested in me, Aye Maung, secretary, Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections

President Bush Thanks Saw Maung for Messages

Inauguration Congratulations

BK2107075289 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], has sent a letter of congratulations to George Bush, newly elected president of the United States of America, on his 20 January 1989 inauguration.

U.S. President George Bush has sent a message to General Saw Maung thanking him for the message. The message reads as follows: [message read by announcer in English]

Dear General Saw Maung:

Thank you for your message on the occasion of my inauguration. During the next 4 years I will make every effort to advance the cause of peace and freedom and make the world a safer place for all.

Sincerely,

[Signed] George Bush

Independence Day Congratulations

BK2107074289 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, has sent a message of congratulations to President George Bush of the United States of America on the U.S. Independence Day which falls on 4 July. President George Bush has sent a reply message to General Saw Maung thanking him for the message.

The reply message reads as follows: [message read by announcer in English]

Dear General Saw Maung:

The American people and I thank you for the message of congratulations in celebration of our 213th anniversary of freedom and independence.

Sincerely,

[Signed] George Bush

Journalist Delegation Leaves for USSR Visit

BK1907142589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 19 Jul 89

[Text] At the invitation of the NOVOSTI NEWS AGENCY of the USSR, a Myanma [Burmese] journalist delegation—headed by U Soe Nyunt, managing director of the Ministry of Information's News and Periodicals Enterprise, and comprising U Maung Maung Aye, editor of THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, as member—left Yangon [Rangoon] by an Aeroflot aircraft this evening.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by Colonel Aung Thein, director for People's Militia and Public Relations, Defense Ministry; and responsible officials of the News and Periodicals Enterprise and the Soviet Embassy in Yangon.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Briton Hanged for Heroin Trafficking

BK2107034789 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0337 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 21 (OANA-BERNAMA)—A Briton convicted of trafficking in heroin was hanged at dawn Friday in a prison near here.

Derrick Gregory, 39, who was arrested in northern Penang State in 1982 for having 576 gm of heroin in his underpants and boots, was hanged at the Kajang prison.

Gregory, a welder, was sentenced to death by the Penang High Court in 1984.

His appeal against conviction was rejected by the Supreme Court. Later, the Pardons Board also rejected his plea for clemency.

Gregory's hanging brings to about 80 the number of people hanged for trafficking in drugs since Malaysia introduced the mandatory death sentence for the offence in 1975.

Singapore

Laurel Wants U.S. Bases Out in 5 to 10 Years

HK2107014789 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in English 2300 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] In Singapore, Vice President Salvador Laurel said Manila should discuss the future of the U.S. military bases with Washington soon. It should also ask its Southeast Asian neighbors if they think the bases should remain. Laurel reaffirmed his view that Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Station, and (?four) smaller U.S. bases in the Philippines should be phased out within 5 to 10 years. President Aquino has been saying she is keeping her options open on whether to extend the bases' lease, which expires in 1991. Laurel said (?four) military bases should be only temporary facilities, and the Philippines should decide on when to remove them.

Washington considers the bases vital to its defense of the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

New Zealand Minister Affirms Regional Commitment

BK2007132389 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES
in English 20 Jul 89

[Text] Thank you, Kiwis—This was the message the Ministry of Defence [Mindef] had yesterday for the departing First Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (1 RNZIR).

Mindef said the stationing of the regiment here had a positive impact in South-east Asia.

And yesterday, New Zealand Defence Minister R.J. Tizard reiterated his country's continued commitment to keeping the region secure.

In an interview with Singapore Broadcasting Corporation [SBC], Mr Tizard, who met First Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Goh Chok Tong at Mindef, said this commitment was "total".

Last month, Mr Tizard said: "Our withdrawal has come about through our greater concentration on Pacific defence as indicated in the 1987 defence review. Our relationship will in no way be diminished and New Zealand will continue with land, sea and air exercises under the FPDA" [Five-Power Defense Arrangement].

The FPDA, created in 1971, allows the five member countries—Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia and Britain—to consult each other in the event of any external threat to Malaysia and Singapore.

In a statement yesterday on the redeployment of the New Zealand force, the ministry said: "Mindef would like to express its appreciation to the 1 RNZIR [First Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment] which has been deployed in Singapore since 1969.

"In 1974, the regiment became part of the New Zealand Force South East Asia, under the aegis of the Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA).

"Their presence in the region has contributed to the peace and stability in South-east Asia."

On the regiment's return home, the statement said: "The New Zealand government has pledged to maintain and enhance defence cooperation with countries in the region and to continue as an active participant in the Five Power Defence Arrangement.

"Mindef warmly welcomes this assurance and looks forward to continuing future exchanges and exercises with the New Zealand defence forces, both bilaterally and under the FPDA."

A week of activities to mark the end of the New Zealand regiment's presence here began last Friday when the Royal New Zealand Air Force held a disbandment parade in Sembawang.

The final ceremonial parade at the force's Dieppe Barracks will be held today. VIPs including Dr Yeo Ning Hong, the Second Minister for Defence (Policy) and Minister for Communications and Information, Lieutenant-General Winston Choo, the Chief of the General Staff, and Mr Tizard will be present at this final parade.

Mr Tizard and a 14-member delegation flew into Singapore on Tuesday [18 July] to take part in the ceremonies. Mr Tizard's delegation includes the Minister for Maori Affairs, Mr Koro Wetere, and high-ranking military officials.

Mr Tizard will leave Singapore on Saturday.

The 1 RNZIR, which the New Zealand government decided three years ago to move back home, will be relocated to the Linton military camp in Palmerston North, near Wellington. The regiment has more than 1,000 personnel and their families in Singapore. About 600 are army personnel, including staff from support services like its hospital and military police unit.

During his SBC interview yesterday, Mr Tizard revealed that a small core of New Zealanders would be retained here as liaison personnel. Some of the force's accommodations would also be retained.

Cambodia

Chea Sim Gives National Assembly Closing Speech
*BK2107095989 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Speech by National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim at 20 July closing of the 17th Session of the 1st National Assembly session—recorded]

[Text] With pride in the results achieved by this session, we can tell our people that, as the representative of our people throughout the country, our National Assembly has correctly fulfilled its role in accordance with the people's trust. During this session, not a single domain of the people's life has been overlooked. All the opinions raised concern the wishes and aspirations of the masses of people throughout the country and current as well as future social requirements. We have correctly assessed and analyzed in detail the difficulties and shortcomings that we will have to overcome, rectify, and improve upon in time in accordance with the characteristic of each undertaking and the specific qualifications of our country.

What is most satisfying is that our National Assembly looked straight at reality, dared to speak the truth without ambiguity, and put forth many constructive initiatives that can be used as a basis for scrutiny and improvement so as to quicken and strengthen the advance of society and the state.

On behalf of the Cambodian people throughout the country, the National Assembly applauded the achievements recorded in all fields during the 1st half of 1989 as brilliant attainments made possible thanks to the combined forces, combined measures, and combined means of the people and the authorities who pooled their efforts in realizing them with a high sense of responsibility.

The National Assembly session expressed a strong consensus in will and spirit on the urgent need to make joint efforts to accelerate the successful implementation of all tasks, especially to most concretely and diligently implement all policies in the localities so that our citizens everywhere can make achievements and see with confidence the pure nature of our new regime.

All members of our National Assembly reflected the delight and satisfaction of our people throughout the country at the new [word indistinct] of the amended Constitution which has elevated the legitimacy of our State of Cambodia at home and on the international stage and enhanced the confidence in our new regime.

Our National Assembly expressed a high sense of unanimity in taking various measures for the meticulous and correct respect for and implementation of the law throughout the country. From the top to the grass-roots structures and from the central to the local levels, it is imperative to instill a sense of respect for, and enforcement of, the law and turn it into a keen movement to be

used as a basis for all plans for strong solidarity and internal unity, [words indistinct] security, development, and [word indistinct] of our society.

Our National Assembly draws the attention of the judicial institutions and authorities at all levels to the need to heighten the sense of responsibility in solving all kinds of lawsuits of the people. Each case should be speedily and neatly settled.

Our National Assembly reminds administrative institutions at all levels of the need to respect and enforce the state law as a compass for leadership and management at their respective levels in view of ensuring both the work efficiency and the faith of the masses of people. Any institutions or levels which have not yet correctly implemented or firmly grasped the contents of the state's legal system must take immediate corrective measures and refrain from prolonging or deferring to rectify wrongdoings. Glorifying the right to mastery of the masses of people and making all cadres, workers, and state employees behave as the most loyal servants of the masses of people is the important factor that our party and state must bring into prominent display through implementation.

On this occasion, our National Assembly would like to inform the masses through the country—the voters—that as your representative our National Assembly has made active efforts in defense of your rights, freedom, and legitimate interests. You should understand that the compilation and ratification of laws is not an easy task. At the same time, ensuring the direct and correct implementation of the spirit of the Constitution and legal system of the state is very complex and difficult. For this reason, at a time when our Cambodian forces themselves must take charge of their own national reconstruction and defense efforts in the stage of the national, democratic, and people's revolution and in accordance with the situation in which our society and state are undergoing political and economic reforms, especially the broadening of the [words indistinct], it is necessary that the masses of our people throughout the country wake up simultaneously to ensure equality before the law and equal rights, freedom, and duty regardless of sex, religion, race, and social standing, in the common advance toward realizing the motto "independence, peace, freedom, and happiness" of our state.

Our National Assembly through this 17th session has appealed to front organizations, trade unions, women's associations, and youth associations representing broad circles throughout the country to heighten the sense of defending the rights, freedoms, and legitimate interests of their members and people. At the same time, the National Assembly has appealed to our media and propaganda organizations of all sectors to give priority to spreading the state's legal system far and wide among the masses of people, to more actively contribute to reflecting the desires, aspirations, and demands of the masses of people, and especially to deal with the shortcomings

and wrongdoings of the institutions or cadres who deviate from the state's legal system to bring greater light to the carrying out of the law on the basis of democracy and in the spirit of speaking the truth without ambiguity.

What I have said above is the principal spirit of the 17th session of our National Assembly which we can regard as most valuable in the democratic and people's stage in the service of peace, national independence, reasonable and just national reconciliation, and the happiness of our people.

Dear comrades and friends, dear compatriots: During this 17th National Assembly session, we have adopted 12 [as heard] laws, specifically the law on foreign investment in Cambodia, the law on tax levied on imports and exports, the law on marriage and family, the law on compulsory military service, and the law on criminal procedure.

Dear comrades and friends, at present we have embarked on the 4th year of the first 5-year plan for socioeconomic rehabilitation and development from 1986-90. As mentioned in the report of the Council of Ministers and compared with the index of the plan, we can note with pride that we have made considerable progress in various domains. However, we are required to make ever greater efforts to successfully carry out the plan and we must pay full attention to this matter. We must mobilize all forces, particularly all sectors, to endorse the new economic levers. We must take all effective measures with firm determination and a high sense of responsibility to put an end to all negative manifestations, deficiencies in work, loose and incompetent economic management, and anarchy in administrative responsibility. Urgent measures must be taken to curb the phenomena of red tape, bureaucratism, shortcomings, and factionalism.

Our National Assembly firmly believes that through this furnishing of arms, the Council of Ministers, the executive body, will be further enforced in the new aspect of economic and social management. The state apparatus will enhance its potentialities to cooperate in orienting the economic components—family, private, and state-private economies—toward the targets desired by our party and state.

On the basis of this view, in this 17th session, our National Assembly has adopted laws on the readjustment of the organization, the role and tasks of the Ministry of National Defense, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Trade, and the Ministry of Finance, and agreed with the nomination of one more member of the Council of Ministers. Moreover, our session has also voted for the nomination of an additional member of the Council of State, making this representative body of our State of Cambodia ever stronger in fulfilling its role in the spirit of our amended Constitution and especially in more actively serving our party and state's cause of national reconciliation.

In particular, from now until 30 September 1989, the day when the Vietnamese Army volunteers will completely end their presence in the territory of our State of Cambodia, our Cambodian forces in all domains, first of all the armed forces, must be strong, powerful, and dynamic in struggle.

With or without a political solution, the entity of the State of Cambodia is irreversible. In fact, only the Government of the State of Cambodia and our authorities are strong and capable enough of thwarting the ambitions of the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime. Certainly, we are the forces necessary to ensure security, stability, and the irreversible status of our society. Only our authorities which have led and managed the state over the past 10 years understand the weals and woes and comprehend the desires and aspirations of the people throughout the country. Only we who have sensed the pulse of society enjoy the trust of the masses of people and are capable of rebuilding the national society and bringing it true prosperity. Forever, we are the front-line fighters defending the independence, peace, democracy, freedom, and happiness of our people.

On this occasion, the entire Cambodian people are pooling their efforts to prepare all conditions in the spirit of mastery and self-defense to prevent the return to power by the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique. The National Assembly of the State of Cambodia declares its resolute opposition to the presence of the genocidal clique in the United Nations. The Cambodian people throughout the country demand that the Cambodian seat at the United Nations be vacated pending the search for national reconciliation and the formation of a new government as a result of the exercise of the Cambodian people's right to self-determination.

As a supreme organization trusted by mankind, the United Nations should immediately correct its erroneous resolution on Cambodia which is one of the factors which has prolonged the misery and suffering of the Cambodian people over the past 10 years and has served as a source of encouragement for the genocidal criminals and their associates who have carried on and are carrying on the war in Cambodia to serve their wicked ambitions.

The National Assembly of the State of Cambodia would like to appeal to all peoples and states of the five continents, all assemblies and governments, all parties and political figures, all religious and cultural circles, and all mass, humanitarian, and human rights organizations to use their influence to expel the genocidal criminals from the United Nations, the supreme and respected forum of mankind. Please conduct a broad campaign to prevent the rebirth in Cambodia of the genocidal regime of the Khmer Rouge and make appropriate and timely contributions to prevent a civil war from taking place in Cambodia, which is a major thrust of the current strategy of the Khmer Rouge and their allies.

At the same time, we representatives of the Cambodian people who have met in the 17th Session of the 1st National Assembly would like to express the firm conviction that the statement of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia on the permanent neutrality of the State of Cambodia will be widely supported by the people and public opinion the world over for the sake of the preservation and perpetuity of the land of Angkor in its capacity as an independent, sovereign, neutral, and nonaligned state with territorial integrity. This will make an important contribution to security, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and to peace in the world.

Availing itself of this opportunity, the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia would like to applaud the delegation of the State of Cambodia headed by Comrade Hun Sen, which has left for its mission in Paris in the cause of national reconciliation and the search for peace and security for the people and motherland. [applause]

Dear comrades and friends, at this moment, our National Assembly has concluded its important work, that is, the agenda of the 17th ordinary session of our first legislature. All you comrades will now return to your respective localities. The Standing Committee of the National Assembly would like to express firm conviction that the great consensus in views, stance, and ideology displayed in the course of this session will be transformed by all of you into more vigorous, resolute, and dynamic concrete actions in the implementation of your duties in your respective constituencies and localities to serve the supreme interests of our people, society, and state in accordance with the sacred trust of our people.

I hereby declare the 17th ordinary session of the 1st National Assembly closed. [applause]

Report on 6-Month Timber Production, Exports
BK2107063289 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0435 GMT 21 July 89

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK July 21—Forest workers in Cambodia have since the beginning of this year felled 107,790 cubic meters of timber, attaining nearly 60 percent of the 1989 plan.

However, the figure showed a decrease of some 32,190 cubic meters compared with the corresponding period last year. The Provinces of Preah Vihear (some 256 km north of Phnom Penh) and Ratanakiri (356 km northeast of Phnom Penh) have achieved their targets.

So far this year, Cambodia has exported 47,667 cubic meters of timber, representing 60 percent of the plan. The export is made by the KAMPEXIM (Kampuchea Export and Import Corporation). Its clientele include Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Laos, Poland, the Soviet Union, Japan, and Singapore.

This year, Cambodia plans to export 80,000 cubic meters of timber. The Forest and Wild Life Department has so far reafforested more than 1,345 hectares.

Army Volunteers in Kratie Province Reported

BK2107072889 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] In the 1st quarter of 1989, 106 youths in Kratie District of Kratie Province volunteered to serve in the Army with a high sense of patriotism. Moreover, 61 youths volunteered to join the militia forces to defend the locality. This is a result of the efforts exerted by the local authorities to constantly and effectively implement the policy toward rear and front battlefields.

Son Sann Seeks Major UN Role in Peace Process

AU2007132689 Paris AFP in English 1316 GMT
20 Jul 89

[Text] Paris, July 20 (AFP)—The Cambodian resistance coalition wants United Nations' control over structures that will monitor any peace process laid down in the international conference on Cambodia that opens here July 30, resistance leader Son Sann said here Thursday.

The statement directly counters Vietnam's refusal to admit any role by the United Nations, which it accuses of "impartiality".

Hanoi, which has backed the current Phnom Penh government with Vietnamese troops, has said it will accept U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's presence at the conference "in his own name only", even if his title is used.

But Son Sann, prime minister of the U.N.-recognized tripartite coalition opposing the Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh regime, insisted in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that "only the U.N. has the means and the experience to carry out effective control".

He was specifically referring to the so-called international control mechanism (ICM) and any international force set up to maintain peace during the transition in Cambodia, both to be discussed at the month-long Paris conference to be attended by at least 17 countries.

Mr. Son Sann said Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the head of the tripartite coalition which also includes the Communist Khmer Rouge, will give more information on the coalition's position in a press conference this week, and outline a proposed constitution he has drawn up, based on the French Constitution.

Mr. Son Sann also said the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia planned for next September would "settle nothing" because Vietnamese soldiers had "infiltrated the Phnom Penh army".

He charged that 700,000 to one million Vietnamese settlers had moved into Cambodia, some armed, which he said was "a lot for a population of six to seven million".

Mr. Son Sann said he would head the resistance delegation to the "round table" talks outside Paris next Monday to Wednesday with the Phnom Penh government, prior to the international conference.

The talks will deal primarily with how the Khmer Rouge will figure in any settlement. They are blamed for the deaths of hundreds of thousands during a near four-year rule until the Vietnamese invasion 10 years ago, and Hanoi and Phnom Penh have flatly rejected their role in any future government.

Comprehensive Political Solution Urged

BK2107025589 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic
Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Station commentary: "Only Through the Comprehensive Settlement of the Cambodian Problem Can Lasting Peace, Security, and Stability Be Ensured in Cambodia and in the Region"]

[Text] For genuine and perpetual peace, security, and stability in Cambodia as well as in the whole of Southeast Asia and the Pacific, all peace- and justice-loving countries across the world and the entire Cambodian people deeply hope that the coming international conference on Cambodia to be held in Paris at the end of July will settle the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively and not just on a certain aspect of it. The settlement should include:

1. The genuine withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia under a thorough and effective supervision of a UN control commission, including the withdrawal of all the undisguised and disguised Vietnamese troops mingled among the puppet soldiers, puppet militiamen, and Cambodian people and all Vietnamese weapons and war materiel. They should be withdrawn permanently and should not return to Cambodia.
2. The genuine national reconciliation through the establishment of a provisional four-party government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to organize a free and fair general election in Cambodia.

Vietnam, however, has tried to fool people regarding these two key points. It has unilaterally announced the withdrawal of its troops by September this year but refused to accept an effective supervision by the United Nations. It has maneuvered to hide its forces in Cambodia by ordering Vietnamese soldiers to disguise themselves as Cambodian soldiers, as puppet militiamen, and as Cambodian people. It is also attempting to force the international conference on Cambodia to approve its

sham troop withdrawal, that is to accept that Vietnam is really withdrawing its troops from Cambodia while in fact the Vietnamese forces are still stationed in and occupying Cambodia.

At the same time, Vietnam has launched maneuvers on Cambodian national reconciliation by rejecting the four-party government proposal, demanding fundamental elimination of Democratic Kampuchea, and persuading the other Cambodian national resistance forces to seek national reconciliation under the Vietnamese puppet regime, that is to lay down their arms and surrender to Vietnam.

Concerning this matter, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has clearly emphasized through his successive statements, particularly in a recent interview to the French newspaper JOURNAL DE GENEVE, that it is necessary to set up a four-party government which also includes the party of Democratic Kampuchea.

The stance of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea is very clear and really aims at reaching an agreement on national reconciliation. That is, the national liberation fighters agree to let the Vietnamese puppets join in the equitable four-party government and army if they stop serving the Vietnamese, thereby achieving a genuine national reconciliation in which no one will be abused by another.

But Vietnam has rejected it and instead demanded a national reconciliation under the puppet regime which is directly controlled from top to bottom by Vietnam. It is tantamount to luring the Cambodian national resistance forces to enter the tiger cage of the Vietnamese and their puppets. Will the Cambodian patriots be willing to crawl into the tiger cage? Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, often states that the Cambodian national resistance forces, Cambodian patriots, and all Cambodian people will fight on until Cambodia achieves 100 percent independence. The samdech's statement constitutes the firm stance of the Cambodian national resistance forces.

It is known to all that Vietnam does not in the least want to settle the Cambodian problem through political means. On the contrary, it has resorted to every means in order to continue occupying Cambodia in accordance with its Indochinese Federation strategy.

Therefore, the Cambodian people hope that the international conference in Paris will take all kinds of effective measures to:

1) force the Hanoi authorities to withdraw all their aggressor troops from Cambodia under effective supervision by a UN international commission; and

2) dissolve both the illegal Vietnamese puppet regime and the legal Democratic Kampuchean state and set up a provisional four-party government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in order to organize a free election in Cambodia under international supervision.

Only by so doing can the Cambodian problem be settled politically, comprehensively, and permanently, thus restoring peace, security, and stability in Cambodia and the whole of Southeast Asia.

Indonesia

Alatas Sees Short-term Failure in Cambodia Talks
BK2007141589 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1354 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Jakarta, July 21 (OANA-ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas stated here Thursday that if the planned International Conference on Kampuchea (ICK) [as received] in Paris fails to yield any result, he is confident that process for a just and peaceful solution to the Kampuchea issue will continue.

"At least, the four Kampuchean warring factions will have a chance to discuss the matter," he told newsmen at his weekly press briefing.

He further said that for the solution to the Kampuchea issue, he has from the beginning not fully depended on the Paris meeting, scheduled for later this month.

According to Alatas, the ICK would take place in Paris from July 30 to 31 and would be followed by a meeting of a working commission consisting of senior officials.

Meanwhile, international reports said that about 20 countries, including Vietnam, Japan, Poland, Laos, Australia, and Canada have been invited to attend the Paris meeting.

The meeting will also be participated in by representatives of the four warring factions in the Kampuchean conflict and the ASEAN member countries.

Indonesia and France will be co-chairmen of the meeting.

Vietnam Concerned About Partiality
BK2007110389 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 17 Jul 89 pp 1, 11

[Text] Jakarta, Sunday [16 July]—Vietnam, along with Cambodia and Laos, is apparently concerned over whether Indonesia can be impartial in its capacity as co-chairman of the international conference on Cambodia scheduled to begin in Paris on 30 July.

"We ask that India be named as the third co-chairman," Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach told MERDEKA and THE INDONESIAN OBSERVER moments before leaving Jakarta on Saturday morning.

Anyway, India's participation in the Paris conference is greatly necessary, Foreign Minister Thach added.

India recognizes the government of Prime Minister Hun Sen in Phnom Penh, while the ASEAN member countries support the Prince Sihanouk-led coalition government, which includes the Khmer Rouge.

In the meantime, the PRC again called for the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge in a quadripartite government to be formed in Cambodia after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops by the end of September.

PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who will attend the Paris conference, called for every agreement at the conference to be agreed upon unanimously.

Earlier, the PRC's participation at the conference was in doubt, in the wake of the recent bloody turmoil in the PRC where communist leaders brutally crushed the pro-democracy movement.

However, a copy of a document obtained by the press on Saturday showed that Beijing's stand on Cambodia was not affected by the political crisis at home.

In his letter to Roland Dumas, French minister for external relations, Qian did not specifically express his support for the Khmer Rouge, who were responsible for the deaths of thousands of Cambodians while in power for almost 2 years [as published] before being overthrown by Vietnamese troops in 1979.

But he said the quadripartite government to be formed and led by Prince Sihanouk was greatly necessary to avoid a civil war and to prevent a possible monopoly of power or acts at the expense of other parties.

Foreign Minister Qian was apparently concerned that the international conference in Paris would legitimize the Phnom Penh government while excluding the Khmer Rouge in the power-sharing arrangements.

Vietnam, too, has expressed its concern over Indonesia's impartiality as co-chairman along with France at the international conference in Paris.

"As Indonesia is bound by its position as an ASEAN member and as JIM [Jakarta informal meeting] chairman, there is a concern among Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia that Indonesia would not be able to represent the interests of other Southeast Asian countries," Foreign Minister Thach said.

Thus, Foreign Minister Thach expressed Vietnam's stand that India should be named as the third co-chairman. However, this will depend on other countries, as a decision must be made by consensus.

"In fact, there will be no problem for Vietnam (for two co-chairmen) if we, Laos, and Cambodia are convinced that Indonesia will be able to represent our interests," Thach stated.

Indochina's concern over Indonesia's stand came following a joint communique issued by the ASEAN member countries at the foreign ministerial meeting in Brunei at the end of June.

In the joint communique, ASEAN supported the formation of an interim government led by Prince Sihanouk after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops under UN supervision, and the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge in a future government.

Indochina consistently rejects the participation of the Khmer Rouge in a new government in Cambodia.

Vietnam's official daily, NHAN DAN, deeply regretted the ASEAN statement, regarding it as a "non-constructive" statement and creating "obstacles" to settling the 11-year-old Cambodian conflict.

Foreign Minister Thach visited Jakarta last Friday to mark the second anniversary of the Ho Chi Minh City Understanding, which opened the way for JIM-1 and JIM-2.

Foreign Minister Thach also held talks with Foreign Minister Ali Alatas to reaffirm their views that the coming Paris conference would not deviate from what had been agreed upon in the two JIM proceedings.

"Indeed, there is an impression that the Paris talks will not be a continuation of the JIM process, but entirely a new first step," a diplomat of a Southeast Asian country in Jakarta told MERDEKA and THE INDONESIAN OBSERVER on Saturday, referring to the first draft working memorandum of the Paris conference, which ignores the results of the two JIM proceedings.

During the special interview with MERDEKA and THE INDONESIAN OBSERVER, Foreign Minister Thach reiterated his government's stand that Hanoi rejected any UN role on peace in Cambodia.

"There was no mention of UN supervision in the implementation of the 1949 Geneva accord on Indochina, the 1961/62 Geneva accord on Laos, or the Paris accord that produced an international commission for control. All were made outside the United Nations," Thach stated.

On the withdrawal issue, Foreign Minister Thach reiterated that nothing could prevent Vietnam from withdrawing all its troops from Cambodia by 30 September.

Laos

Article Warns of 'Enemies' Psychological Warfare *BK2107035589 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Unattributed "article": "National Defense and Public Security Maintenance Work Is Duty of Entire People"]

[Text] Economic building and national defense and public security maintenance are the two interrelated strategic tasks that cannot be separated from each other. To gain an opportunity to effectively build the economy in order to achieve progress in developing the country in all respects, first and foremost it is necessary to effectively build and improve the national defense and public security network so as to tranquilize and stabilize the society.

Based on the specific points of our country's strategic position, the national defense and public security maintenance work is considered to be very significant. Facts regarding this issue have already been proved in the history of our nation. In view of the fact that our country is rich in natural resources, most of which have not yet been exploited, the imperialists and international reactionaries have hustled to come to our country with a view to seizing and turning it into their colony with the hope of enriching themselves. But with the patriotic tradition of the heroic and undaunted struggle of our past generations, our beloved country has been securely defended until today.

At present, along with speeding up the economic development in the new stage, the national defense and public security maintenance work is considered to be even more significant and necessary for our country. Though the enemies of our nation and our people have already been defeated, they have never abandoned their efforts to subvert and sabotage our country in many fields, particularly in the cultural field. Noteworthy is that at present they have changed their strategy, switching from implementing the armed confrontation to peacefully effecting changes through different forms. For example, they have carried out psychological warfare aimed at sowing division in the country and disrupting international solidarity, resorted to using schemes to change our line of thinking of cherishing the country and socialism, and spent much money and thrown down large quantities of materials to buy off our cadres, soldiers, police, and people. By so doing, they have followed the saying: fighting with dollars is better than fighting with troops.

For this reason, in carrying out the national defense and public security maintenance work, it is required that all of us heighten vigilance and take cautious steps in all respects. It is the responsibility of not only the armed forces, but also the entire people to do this task. The national defense and public security maintenance work must be carried out in close coordination with the building of economy. This is because the peaceful situation in the country will create favorable conditions for

the building of economy, and in return, the development of economy will contribute to strengthening the national defense and public security maintenance work.

To effectively fulfill the national defense and public security maintenance work, along with building a modern army, the people must be mobilized and helped to understand the significance of this work so that they can act in the service of the local administrations and help build, consolidate, and strengthen the regional armed forces. In addition, close attention must be paid to building and strengthening infantry and militia-guerrilla forces so that they can also serve as the core in carrying out the national defense and public security maintenance work in the grass roots. Attention must be also paid to educating and training all people in all localities to maintain the sense of national defense. First of all, the training in this field must be provided for youths from each branch and each level. Appropriate forms and measures of organizing must be used to combine the economic building work with the national defense work and vice versa. At the same time, the people must be encouraged to step up production while always maintaining combat readiness to defend themselves.

The national defense and public security maintenance work is the fine tradition of our army and people in fighting and defeating the enemies and securely defending the country. Therefore, the party and administrative committees at each level and various units of regional armed forces and militia-guerrillas must also firmly grasp our party's line on the national defense and public security maintenance work. It is clearly stipulated in this line of our party that the national defense and public security maintenance work must be based on the strength of the entire people and that to effectively implement this work means to create favorable conditions for the successful building and development of our country in the new stage.

Kaysone Phomvihan Opens Banking Conference *BK2107061589 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Speech by Lao People's Revolutionary Party General Secretary and Council of Ministers Council Chairman Kaysone Phomvihan to the first national banking conference in Vientiane on 20 July—recorded]

[Text] The first nationwide banking conference was elegantly opened in Vientiane this morning under the chairmanship of Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The conference was attended by some 130 representatives from Vientiane municipality, various provinces, and various branches. Attending the opening ceremony of this historic conference as guests of honor were members or alternate members of the Political Bureau and secretaries of the LPRP Central Committee—Phoumi Vongvichit, Khamtai Siphandon, Sisomphon

Lovansai, Sisavat Keobounphan, Sali Vongkhamso, Saman Vi-gnaket, Maichantan Sengmani, and Somlat Chanthamat—along with members or alternate members of the party Central Committee and ministers or deputy ministers.

General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane delivered an opening speech in which he explained the significance of the banking system and banking activities and the necessity to turn them into real business so as to create favorable conditions for the change in the mechanism for national economic activities. He said:

[Begin Kaysone Phomvihane recording] Today, the first nationwide banking conference is convened to study, discuss, and make decisions on various important issues aimed at genuinely turning the banks toward business accounting in accordance with the spirit of the fifth and the seventh resolutions of the fourth party Central Committee session. To quickly effect a change in the natural economy to develop goods production, increase labor productivity, and exploit and utilize, ever more effectively, the economic potentials of our country, it is necessary for us to completely do away with the state-financing bureaucratic practices, first and foremost in the goods distribution and circulation work, and in particular the financial and banking work. Everyone knows well that banks maintain an especially significant role in the goods-oriented economy and that their daily activities are closely related to activities of all services in the national economy. For this reason, only by changing the banking system and genuinely turning banking activities into business can favorable conditions be created for the change in the mechanism for national economic activities. This conference, therefore, has the important task to fulfill, [word indistinct] which serves as both the forefront and the last front in undergoing the new change in the management mechanism of our country. For this reason, our conference must concentrate on studying and explaining the following major issues:

1)—It is necessary to profoundly understand new concepts, new viewpoints, and various regulations on banking activities.

2)—It is necessary to correctly assess the true situation of banking work in our country. In this regard, it is necessary to specify what can be done and what cannot be done, and point out various shortcomings and basic causes of those shortcomings. At the same time, answers must be given to various practical questions, such as: Why can the banks not collect their outstanding loans? Why are those loans left circulating outside control of the banks? Other questions are: Why do the banks run short of cash? Why are the economic activities in need of cash? Why is the buying or selling price in cash as much as 20 to 30 percent cheaper than the prices in transferred money? Why do the people, the people who have money, not want to deposit their money in the banks? And why are loans not productive even when the banks have distributed a large amount of money to the public?

3)—It is necessary to firmly grasp the contents of the changes in the banking system. Particularly, it is necessary to scrupulously study details on the forms of organization and on various plans and basic policies on banking activities, such as the plan and policy on the separation of the state management role and responsibility from the business management role and responsibility in banking work, which is considered a very significant plan and policy, and the plan and policy on the transferring of the financial treasury from the banks to be under the management system of the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Finance to define the (?separating point) between the loans and the budget, to correctly determine the causes of inflation so as to adopt effective measures to prevent it. Another one is the plan and policy on granting loans and fixing interest rates in the banking work.

4)—It is necessary to clearly define the direction for bank activities in the immediate future.

We must accept that it is not only bank management and bank cadres who engage in banking. To effectively turn the economy toward business accounting, all enterprises and organizations must study and learn how to do the banking work, first of all the financial work and the work on distributing loans and collecting payments. To achieve a glorious success in this conference, each comrade must heighten the spirit of responsibility, study and firmly grasp various basic issues, both in terms of theory and actual practice. Each comrade must be able to separate old ideas from new ideas, promote and expand democracy by daring to look into matters and tell the truth about them, find out various weak points and shortcomings, contribute views to various draft resolutions or decisions, and present concrete methods of settling various problems with a view to genuinely changing and improving the banking work.

I wish the conference glorious success. [applause] [end recording]

Later, Mrs Pani Yathotou, alternate member of the party Central Committee and chairwoman of the State Bank, presented a report to the conference. In the report, she pointed to the achievements as well as various remaining problems and weak points in carrying out the banking work in the previous years. She also presented the direction, tasks, and measures on effecting new changes of the banks in the period from now until year 1990.

In addition, the conference participants heard a report on the experiments in turning the banks toward business accounting as presented by a representative of the Setthathilath Bank, a report on investment loans for the countryside and on the redemption of bonds by a representative of the Vientiane Capital Bank, and another report on the loans for an investment in industrial tree planting and on the payments by a representative of the Champassak Provincial Bank.

Editorial Views Improvement of Banking Sector
BK2706072189 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 23 Jun 89

[PASASON 23 June Editorial: "The Area That Should Be Corrected"]

[Text] Everything has two sides that must be kept in balance so that it can exist and expand in an orderly and normal manner. However, imbalance of the two sides will lead to instability. This is the law of both nature and society. The imbalance of the current socioeconomic life in our country can be seen from the limited money supply and the ever-rising demand for money. Revenue is low but expenditures are high. The demand for money to broaden circulation and production has arisen amidst the insufficiency of capital. This is the cause of difficulties in many areas such as the upgrading of the people's living conditions. Another problem which remains unsolved in the socioeconomic life of our country is the accumulation of debts by various business units. The budgets of the states and business units have occasionally been hampered by a shortage of cash, thus considerably hampering the movement of production and circulation and affecting the social livelihood. All of these constitute the most difficult problem which has yet to be solved. Certainly this problem involves many sectors, especially the banking sector, in the entire system of the national economy. The banking sector plays an especially significant role in turning the natural economy to the new mechanism. The most urgent problem of the banking sector currently is the improvement of its technical policy to attract cash. It is important to eliminate the shortage of cash and gather all sources of capital in forms of cash and foreign currencies for clearing unpaid salaries and making preparations step-by-step for payment of salaries with cash. This is the immediate (political) duty of the entire banking system. The banking sector cannot solve this problem alone. Other financial and trade sectors are also obliged to take part in the effort to solve this difficult problem through detailed and effective measures.

The seventh plenum of our party has laid down the direction of movement for the banking service as follows: Turn all banks to business; promulgate policies of the banking system in terms of currency, credit, interest rates, and debt payment to turn all banks into hubs of cash, credit, and debt payment; apply new technology with banking activities; and build and train cadres who are imbued with new attitudes, policies, and concepts of how to do business.

Touching on the monetary issue, the seventh resolution introduces a number of key directives such as broadening partnerships with foreign countries; attracting investments and accumulated cash in the country; forcefully promoting foreign currency business in both buying and selling forms; exploiting every economic measure to modify banking services and induce all economic sectors

to open bank deposit accounts; gathering all sources of cash through banks; increasing the rate of fund rotation; and calculating the balance of money in circulation.

As for credit work, banks must follow the direction toward providing capital and granting short-term loans for forestry and agricultural development; purchasing goods for export; operating two-way services in the areas of forestry and agricultural production; and providing loans for people engaged in state-promoted profitable occupations. Banks provide loans for every individual in any economic sector and have the right to refuse loans for any unit unable to pay back the debt.

Debt clearance procedures of our country's banking system have been rather difficult and complicated and have caused all kinds of problems to clients. The banking sector must quickly coordinate with various sectors to solve the problem of accumulating debts in the national economy and to reform its debt clearance work so it is less time-consuming and convenient to effectively serve clients. Another problem which requires attention is the expansion of the banking service network, bank representatives, and credit cooperatives down to the grass roots for the people to deposit money, seek loans, spend money, and sell foreign currencies so as to gather every source of money and turn banks into significant organizations which impact various sectors and become the state's macro-commanding device. These are the directions and policies laid down by our party which must be implemented by every individual and economic organization with a true sense of responsibility with the aim of consolidating all potentials of our country to solve this difficult problem.

Somlat Chanthamat Meets SRV Propaganda Group
BK2007055489 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Somlat Chanthamat, member of the party Central Committee Secretariat and chief of the Propaganda and Training Board of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, received in Vientiane yesterday afternoon Tran Ngoc Hoi, deputy head of the Propaganda and Training Department of the Communist Party of Vietnam and his delegation. The host and his guests discussed issues pertaining to propaganda and training work both in the past and at the present time and cooperation between the propaganda and training boards of Laos and Vietnam.

The meeting proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The Vietnamese delegation arrived in Vientiane on 13 July. During the visit, the delegation gave lectures at offices and agencies in Vientiane Municipality on the renovation program being implemented in the SRV.

Lao Refugees Said To Return From Thailand
BK2107104589 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Vientiane, July 21 (OANA-KPL)—Seventeen families made up of 65 Lao refugees returned to the

fatherland on July 14, 1989 from Thailand. The welcoming ceremony was held in Houai Sai Township, the northern province of Bokeo.

The ceremony was witnessed by an official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Laos, which will help the returnees in settling down in the first stage.

The returnees consist of 36 Lao Loum people (low land people), 25 Lao Soung people of Yao ethnics and 4 Lao Soung people of Museu ethnics.

Economic Delegation Returns From Ulaanbaatar
BK2007055889 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] On the evening of 18 July, the delegation of the Lao-Mongolian Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation led by Phao Bounnaphon, chairman of the commission, returned to Vientiane after attending the seventh extraordinary conference on economic and trade cooperation between Laos and Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of the Mongolian People's Republic.

Philippines

Aquino Proposes December Talks on U.S. Bases
HK2107102389 Hong Kong AFP in English 0958 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Manila, July 21 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino said Friday that she wants exploratory talks on the future of U.S. military bases in the Philippines to start in December after she makes a state visit to Washington.

Mrs. Aquino said she might discuss the issue with President George Bush during her visit but "the talks will only start by the end of the year. I'm thinking in terms of December."

It was the first time Mrs. Aquino gave a definite month for the start of the talks on Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base, the largest U.S. military facilities abroad, whose lease expires September 1991.

Mrs. Aquino's U.S. visit, expected between September and November, will be her second since taking power in February 1986. She went to Washington in September 1986 and met then-U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The United States has indicated that it wanted the talks to clarify whether the lease ends by September 1991, as Manila insists, or in September 1992, as some U.S. officials assert due to a provision in the bases agreement calling for a one-year notice before the bases are removed.

Mrs. Aquino made her stand known after newspapers here quoted her estranged Vice President Salvador Laurel as saying in a visit to Singapore that the bases should be phased out in five to 10 years.

Her official stand is to "keep our options open" until 1991 but most diplomats here expect an extension of the lease under a new treaty with increased compensation for Manila.

Under the existing agreement, Washington is to provide 481 million dollars a year in military and economic aid from 1990-91 plus an unspecified amount of debt relief. It also promised to promote further business investments here.

Philippine sources say the terms of a new treaty would have to be taken up in separate negotiations if Manila decides in the coming talks to extend the lease on the bases, which extend U.S. power in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Further Reportage on Manglapus Visit to USSR

Comments on Bilateral Relations
LD1907111989 Moscow TASS in English 1048 GMT
19 Jul 89

[By correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow July 19 TASS—"The principal aim of our visit to Moscow is to promote further development of the entire spectrum of Philippine-Soviet relations," said Raul Manglapus, Philippine secretary for foreign affairs. He arrived in the Soviet Union last Sunday [16 July] for an official visit.

"This is my first but, I hope, far from last visit to your country with which the Philippines is bound by a common commitment to the ideals of peace, friendship, stability and progress," Manglapus told TASS.

"Although diplomatic relations between our two countries were established recently—only 13 years ago—they have, I am convinced, the most reassuring prospects for improvement.

"Our common positions on such cardinal problems of our time as ending the arms race, nuclear disarmament, cooperation on a multilateral basis in the name of economic and social development, and the prevention of an ecological apocalypse and others serve as an illustration of this," Manglapus went on to say.

"I would like to emphasise the exceptional impact which is being made, not only on bilateral relations but also on the entire system of international relations and the international climate as a whole, by the policy of perestroika, glasnost and democratisation of all aspects of

Soviet society's life being pursued under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev. I am convinced that this is an international phenomenon and not only a national one," Manglapus said.

"In this connection I expect much from the forthcoming meeting with President Gorbachev. I also would like to express confidence that the development of bilateral cooperation will be promoted by the forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union by Philippine President Corazon Aquino in spring next year.

"Naturally, at the current talks with my Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow, we devote much attention to the current state of affairs in the Asia-Pacific region to which our two countries belong.

"The initiatives proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev in Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk to strengthen security and stability and to reduce military confrontation and tension in the region are shared in the Philippines.

"It can be pointed out with satisfaction that the normalisation process is going on. This finds its manifestation, in particular, in measures to solve the Cambodian problem. The member-countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are going to an international conference on Cambodia, to open in Paris in the coming days, with a common position—in accordance with the recommendations adopted at the Jakarta informal meetings.

"I am gratified to point out the importance which the Soviet leadership attaches to ASEAN countries' initiatives aimed at stabilising the situation in the region, and the support specifically for the plan to establish a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in the Asia-Pacific region and a zone free from nuclear weapons.

"A wide range of both international and national problems are under discussion in the talks with Eduard Shevardnadze," Manglapus went on to say.

"I want to point out that we have been greatly impressed by the Soviet side's profound knowledge and understanding of our domestic problems and by the absolutely explicit decision not to interfere in the internal affairs of each other in any way.

"Documents which are important to our relations have been signed in Moscow. These are a program for cultural exchanges for 1989-90, an agreement on economic and technical cooperation, a memorandum of intent concerning exchanges of land plots for embassies and trade missions of the two countries and others.

"This elevates the entire system of Philippine-Soviet relations to a new level, and prospects for their further development in the political, economic and cultural

fields, as I have already said, are quite reassuring. It would be right to say that the winds of change are blowing into the sails of the Philippine-Soviet ship," Manglapus emphasised.

Meets With Gorbachev

LD1907185589 Moscow TASS in English 1803 GMT
19 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 19 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev today received Philippine Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus, who conveyed President Corazon Aquino's special message to Mikhail Gorbachev.

Welcoming the guest, the Soviet leader described his first official visit to the USSR as an important event in Soviet-Philippine relations. We appreciate links which have developed with this country in the past few years. The improvement of Soviet-Philippine relations meets the interests of the two countries, peace and security in Asia and the Pacific.

The Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev continued, attaches great significance to the processes currently under way in Asia and the Pacific. They acquire dynamics and positive orientation. We are prepared to cooperate with all countries of this huge and complex region without exception. On the basis of such common approach the USSR took practical steps aimed at lessening military confrontation in the Asia-Pacific region, is prepared to discuss with all interested countries any matters relating to strengthening the security of states, to confidence-building measures and to settling regional conflicts.

Raul Manglapus noted the new nature of Soviet-Philippine relations and said that President Aquino and the Philippine Government were interested in developing political dialogue and cooperation with the Soviet Union in various areas, including science, technology and culture. He reaffirmed President Aquino's intention to pay a visit to the USSR next year.

Mikhail Gorbachev said that the Soviet Union would be glad to welcome the Philippine president and asked to convey best wishes to Corazon Aquino.

The conversation was marked by a spirit of openness and mutual understanding.

It was attended by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Assesses Gorbachev Meeting

LD1907173189 Moscow TASS in English 1554 GMT
19 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 19 TASS—Philippine Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus, on an official visit in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government, has described his meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev today as "very fruitful."

President Gorbachev emphasised during the meeting that the Soviet Government was watching with satisfaction the peaceful changes currently under way in the Philippines and would like to facilitate the success of this process, Manglapus said at a news conference here today.

In turn, he said, the Philippine Government expressed support for the Soviet policy of restructuring and expressed hope that this policy will succeed at home as well as abroad.

Manglapus stated the Philippine Government's aspiration to facilitate in all ways the policy of perestroika.

The two officials also discussed the question of a visit to the USSR by President Corazon Aquino, slated for next spring.

He expressed hope that the broadening of understanding between the USSR and the Philippines will promote confidence in the Asia-Pacific region.

On the problem of the presence of American bases in the Philippines, the minister pointed out that the Soviet side voiced hope that there will be no need for bases on foreign territories by the year 2000.

At the same time, the Soviet Union believes that the question of the presence of foreign bases in the Philippines is an exclusive matter of the Philippine Government.

Asked about the two countries' views on the Cambodian conflict, the Philippine minister said that, in his opinion, there are broad areas in which the positions of the USSR and the ASEAN member countries on this problem are identical. These include questions of the international mechanism of control, non-resumption of the practice of genocide and cessation of military assistance to warring sides.

Meets With Laverov

*LD2007002889 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1513 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Moscow, 19 July. (TASS)—At a meeting today between Nikolay Laverov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, and Raul Manglapus, secretary of foreign affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, matters pertaining to the development of scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries were discussed. A memorandum was signed on the results of the discussion.

Today, too, Raul Manglapus attended a joint sitting of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

In the afternoon, the visitor departed for a tour of Leningrad.

Interviewed About Soviet Trip

*HK2007081989 Moscow in Tagalog to the Philippines
1300 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Interview With Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus by unidentified Moscow Radio reporter; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Manglapus, what good has your visit to Moscow contributed to Philippine-Soviet relations?

[Manglapus] Our visit to this beautiful country has paved the way for the realization of plans that were drawn up by your country and mine for the years to come. Also, we came to realize that there is a great opportunity for us to expand cooperation and other ties with the Soviet Union. Despite differences in our social and government systems, we could be partners in economic projects and we could also establish political relations for the promotion of worldwide peace.

[Reporter] Mr Manglapus, what can you say about the Soviet Union's initiative regarding the Asia-Pacific region?

[Manglapus] We in ASEAN dream of having a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality [ZOPFAN]. This means that we want freedom from military and political influence by the powerful countries. This is the aim of ASEAN politics.

The Soviet Union's initiative needs to be thoroughly studied by our region because it has relevance to our dream of ZOPFAN. So, this must be properly reviewed by the governments and countries in the region.

[Reporter] How was your discussion with Eduard Shevardnadze on the resolution of the conflict in Cambodia?

[Manglapus] The Cambodian conflict was mentioned in our talks yesterday [18 July], and Mr Shevardnadze reiterated the Soviet Union's stand which is very close to ASEAN's position, a position which was agreed upon in our meetings, we called JIM 1 and JIM 2 [first and second Jakarta informal meetings], in Jakarta. We have great hopes that a resolution to the Cambodian conflict would be reached when we go to Paris.

[Reporter] Mr Manglapus, what other topics did you discuss that concerned the members of the ASEAN?

[Manglapus] We talked about the debts of the poor countries. My proposal to the United Nation's General Assembly was for the creation of an international commission to study and find ways to resolve the debt problems of these poor nations. This is one problem of some ASEAN countries, and also a problem of other countries in Asia, Latin America, and Africa.

[Reporter] Mr Manglapus, you met with Mr Katushev earlier, what topics did you discuss with him?

[Manglapus] We talked on the accord we signed yesterday, which was the establishment of Philippine-Soviet economic and technical cooperation. Mr Katushev explained to the delegation some pointers to the agreement which concerned the system of carrying out commerce and trade, and product exchanges between the two countries. We also discussed similar transactions which the Soviet Union has already undertaken in the past with other countries and which we could use as a model.

[Reporter] Mr Manglapus, do you believe that the abundant financial aids your country has been receiving could solve the Philippines' economic problems?

[Manglapus] The Multilateral Aid Initiative which we discussed in Tokyo could help us in creating more jobs especially for the poor that they may be able to escape poverty and improve their living conditions. President Aquino wants to use that aid primarily to help the poor.

[Reporter] Thank you very much. [end recording]

President Aquino Seeks To Improve USSR Ties

HK2107040789 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0300 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] President Aquino has expressed the desire to further improve Philippine-Soviet ties. She has reiterated that this move would be in accordance with the country's policy for peace. Mrs Aquino said she is waiting for Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus' report before making any decision on the date of her Moscow visit.

Manglapus met with President Mikhail Gorbachev and discussed how to further enhance Philippine-Soviet relations.

Trade Deficit Reaches \$744 Million in 1st Quarter

HK2107090389 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 20 Jul 89 p 11

[By Oscar Quiambao]

[Text] The trade deficit soared to \$744 million in the first four months of the year, or more than double the \$332 million during the comparable period last year, the Central Bank [CB] reported yesterday.

However, despite the huge deficit in the merchandise trade, the Monetary Board [MB] on Friday further freed the importation of 60 more essential and non-essential items, including spare parts for key industries.

To date, there are now a total 1,379 items that can be freely imported.

Although there are still no final trade figures for June, sources said the deficit has already exceeded \$1 billion.

Analysts said that the merchandise trade gap is expected to rise further in the next three months as importations reach their peak on stockpiling of inventory in preparation for the Christmas holidays.

As a result, it is widely expected that the peso will take a sharp fall in the weeks ahead.

In fact, the peso dropped to an all-time low of P [peso] 21.97 the other day, the currency's biggest one-day plunge.

Latest CB data showed that export income as of April reached \$2.414 billion, about 16 percent higher than last year, against imports of \$3.158 billion, 31 percent higher from last year.

Export shipments in April rose 20.4 percent to \$643 million while imports were placed at \$938 million, up by 48.4 percent compared to last year.

In Circular No. 1205 approved last Friday, the MB, the policy-making body of the Central Bank, announced import relaxation on 38 items consisting of machinery, equipment and spare parts for use of registered participants in the modernization programs for iron and steel, cement, textile and coconut industries.

Importation of these items will no longer need prior approval of the Board of Investments (BOI).

Another group of 21 items, consisting of radiation-emitting apparatus and related devices can now be imported without clearance from the health department. These include microwave ovens and laser guns.

Likewise, the importation of rolling papers or cigarette papers, cut to size, in leaves, booklets or tubes, will no longer require prior CB approval.

Central Bank Redeems Government Securities

BK2107051689 Manila PNA in English 0305 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Manila, July 21 (OANA/PNA)—The Central Bank [CB] redeemed 40 million dollars worth of U.S. dollars-denominated government securities on Wednesday [19 July] to fully phase-out its domestic foreign exchange-denominated borrowing program.

The monetary authorities redeemed at least 200 million dollars worth of treasury bills and notes starting last year after CB studies showed that the securities were being used to export capital from Manila, according to a ranking official of the CB.

This year the CB redeemed at least 125 million dollars.

The official said: "We had discovered almost two years ago that the dollar-denominated T-bills were being used to salt dollars through loop transactions."

The loop transactions the official was referring to are the transactions entered into by institutions holding on to the T-bills and, individuals who salt the dollars.

An example of a loop transaction includes the following: A financial institution sells a T-bill to an individual for its value in pesos; the investor, who holds on to the T-bill for a certain period of time, then sells the T-bill to the same institution or another for its value in U.S. dollars; the institution is instructed by the individual to transmit the payments to a bank account anywhere in the world.

"The monetary authorities were alarmed over the legalized transfer of dollars from the country to any bank in the world," the official said, adding that the CB has been unable to monitor the number of loop transactions.

"A single dollar T-bill could have gone through hundreds of loop transactions," he said.

Aquino Approves Funds for Livelihood Projects

*HK2107110189 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan
in Tagalog 1000 GMT 21 Jul 89*

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has approved a 109 million-peso fund for the country's new livelihood projects in a meeting with the Presidential Livelihood Committee in Malacanang this morning. For the details here is Sel Baisa:

[Begin recording] Here are some of the new livelihood programs with their allocated fund: The Nueva Vizcaya Woodcraft, P1-million; Bataan Fish Processing, P3-million; Bulacan Garment and Sewing, P1.3-million; Rizal Mango Growing, P6.6-million; and the Dole Social Investment Program, P28-million. [end recording]

Official Reports Increase in Middle Incomes

Lowest Earnings Unchanged

*HK2107105789 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 21 Jul 89 p 7*

[By staff writer David Jude Sta. Ana]

[Text] The government reported on Wednesday that the incidence of poverty in the country has gone down to 49.5 percent, down from last year's 58.9 percent.

While the level of poverty had dropped, however, those in the lowest income bracket have not experienced any change in the distribution of income, the report said.

Press Secretary Adolfo Azcuna, who gave the report, quoted statistics furnished by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

The computation of the drop of the poverty level was based on a P [peso] 4,000 monthly income for a family in the National Capital Region [NCR] and P2,400 for outside the NCR.

The average income in 1988 went up to P39,728 from the 1985 level of P31,052, representing an increase of 27.9 percent.

Azcuna pointed out that those in the bottom 30 percent of the income bracket "experienced no change at all" in the distribution of income.

"They account for only 9.3 percent of the total national income," Azcuna added.

The upper 10 percent of the upper income bracket, he said, decreased in its shares of national income from 36.4 percent in 1985 to 35.7 this year.

The figures, Azcuna added, indicated that there has been "growth in the middle income bracket."

The government aims to reduce the poverty incidence to 45.2 percent in 1992 from the present level of 49.5.

Meanwhile, the Investment Coordinating Committee of the NEDA has approved the implementation of six countryside development projects costing P4.1 billion.

The projects, which range from a telephone exchange program in Cagayan to the modernization of a geothermal plant in Tiwi, were approved by President Aquino at the regular Cabinet meeting.

Azcuna said the projects will be funded by local and foreign agencies.

De Villa Says Troop Reduction 'Not Viable'

*HK2107103789 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 21 Jul 89 p 16*

[Text] Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief of staff Gen. Renato S. de Villa said yesterday the proposal to reduce the number of the officers and men of the AFP is not viable while the insurgency problem remains a threat to the stability of the country.

De Villa was reacting to a proposal of Speaker Ramon Mitra which calls for the reduction of the force by 70,000 to 100,000 men and suspension of the recruitment of soldiers to enable the government to give higher salaries to military men and additional compensations and benefits to their dependents.

"The proposal, to my mind, would be viable only if insurgency is no longer a national threat," De Villa said.

Military Agrees To Debate Human Rights With NPA
*HK2007105789 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger, of the New People's Army's [NPA] Melito Glor Command and Captain Antonio Cacam of Region 4's Philippine Constabulary have agreed to hold a debate. Tito Ojeda of DWTI Lucena says the time and venue of the debate are still being determined. The debate will be aired live over DZRH through DZTI Lucena City. Topics to be tackled are the discovery of NPA killing fields in Southern Tagalog and human rights violations. Ojeda is negotiating the live radio debate of Comrade Roger and Captain Cacam. He and a representative from DZRH will be the moderators.

Local Government Sets Up Peace, Order Councils
*HK2107093389 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 20 Jul 89 p 7*

[By R. Salting]

[Text] Some 1,665 peace and order councils [POC] have been organized nationwide to boost the government's campaign against insurgency and criminality, the Department of Local Government [DLG] said yesterday.

Local Government Secretary Luis Santos, National POC chairman, said the government has finished organizing local POCs in the country's 14 regions, 75 provinces and in 1,516 municipalities.

Santos said only 16 towns, situated in the depressed areas, have yet to organize POCs because of inadequacy of funds.

These towns are located in Region 7, 13 municipalities; Region 8, two; and Region 11, one, he said.

Undersecretary for Public Safety Rolleo Ignacio, POC technical committee chairman, said the NPOC [National Peace and Order Council] has proposed to Malacanang the approval and release of some P22.3 million as the council's budget for 1989.

Ignacio said the proposed budget has already been referred by the Palace to the Department of Budget for comment prior to its approval and consideration by President Aquino.

Ignacio said the release of the 1989 budget would eventually complete the organization of POCs in the 16 towns before the year ends.

The DLG official revealed that the bulk of this year's POC funds will be allotted to local government units, particularly the depressed municipalities, to assist them in the operation of their councils and implementation of their plans and programs.

The POCs are the backbone of the government's drive to quell the 20-year-old communist insurgency through an integrated civil-military approach to the problem.

Composed of representatives from the government and private sectors, the POCs are the major forums for the discussion and resolution of peace and order problems affecting every local government unit in the country.

Bishop Seeks Government Help for Refugees
*HK1707051589 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 17 Jul 89 pp 1, 9*

[Text] Antonio Y. Fortich, retired bishop of Bacolod City, yesterday called on the Government to come to the rescue of some people who had sought refuge in the diocesan seminary for fear of anti-communist religious cultists who had threatened them with death.

The prelate issued the call as he warned military authorities in Bacolod City to postpone a counter-insurgency operation, code-named Operation Kahilyawan [translation unknown] in the hinterlands of Negros Occidental. He said implementation of the plan might result in another mass evacuation similar to what happened last summer.

He also supported the demand of the refugees for the Government to indemnify them since their displacement was caused by massive military operations in their areas.

"There is a need to prick the conscience of the civilian government," Fortich told Chronicle in a long-distance interview. "I want to tell them: come here and help us."

The refugees came from the rebel-infested Chicks (Candoni, Hinoba-an, Ilog, Cauayan, Kabankalan and Sipalay) area. They were remnants of 35,000 residents driven from their homes by the "pursuit operations" launched by the Army in Negros against the rebels last summer.

Although "Operation Thunderbolt" was called off by the military early last month, the 700 sought refuge in the Sacred Heart Seminary in Bacolod City for fear of the Pulahans, anti-communist religious fanatics who got their name from the red hairbands they wore.

Radio stations in Bacolod City two weeks ago broadcast the letters of Pulahan leaders urging the refugees to leave the seminary and come home or face its wrath.

The letters accused the refugees of being communist sympathizers.

Last week, Pulahans were sighted in the seminary grounds, compelling religious authorities to call the police and the military for protection.

Fortich said the Pulahans had killed the kin of the refugees.

"The Pulahans have become wild," he said. "The refugees told me of how the Pulahans cut the heads and ears off their relatives."

Fortich said he had appealed to Negros Occidental Gov. Daniel Lacson and Army Brig. Gen. Raymundo Jarque to do something about the Pulahans. He added that the latter promised to go to Hinoba-am, reputedly the base of the Pulahans.

"But up to now I haven't heard any echo of his visit," said Fortich, who has been nominated for the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize this year by international legislators and groups.

Thailand

Official Urges Review of Software Protection

Dislike U.S. Policy

BK2107014989 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Jul 89 p 17

[Text] The Commercial Registration Department [CRD] has urged the Government to decide whether to start providing copyright protection to computer software in the wake of a GATT agreement to do so.

CRD Director-General Sukhon Kanchanalai who headed a Thai delegation to the GATT Intellectual Property Meeting in Geneva from July 12-15 described the agreement as a negative development for Thailand.

She said most GATT members agree to protection although they also agreed the scope and standard of protection on copyrights should be compatible with the Berne Convention of which Thailand is a member.

Thailand tried to oppose the proposal, and also proposed the protection period should not be as long as that of copy-right protection, but this received a terse response.

The country was standing alone on the issue as other developing countries like India, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia had bowed to pressure from the United States. "It's time for the Government to review its position on this matter and decide what to do next," she said.

Earlier Thailand refused to make any commitment during its bilateral trade talks with the U.S. on computer software protection as it expected to receive support from GATT.

The GATT agreement came as a shock to Thailand.

As Thailand is now at a dead end, Miss Sukhon suggested the Government consider implementing sui generis legislation to protect computer software.

Other results of the meeting, particularly concerning patent protection, are positive for Thailand.

All members except the U.S. and Switzerland agreed the scope of patent protection should exclude some innovations such as pharmaceuticals and biotechnology.

All members except the U.S. also agreed the scope of protection should provide special treatment for some countries in compulsory licensing. Miss Sukhon said it was also agreed more meetings would be held later.

Chatchai Welcomes SRV Support for Truce

BK2107022889 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Jul 89 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and other top officials yesterday welcomed Vietnam's support for a proposed truce in the decade-old war between the government it installed in Cambodia and resistance forces.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach told Vietnamese television on Wednesday that he agreed with the proposal Chatchai made earlier this year for a truce before Vietnam's pullout by September 30.

"The Cambodian issue cannot be solved peacefully without a ceasefire," Thach said, according to official Radio Hanoi, monitored in Bangkok by the ASSOCIATED PRESS.

"Therefore, Vietnam fully supports the Thai prime minister's proposal that the Cambodian parties sign a ceasefire agreement in Bangkok, and considers this as part of a political solution to the Cambodian issue," he said.

Asked for reaction, Chatchai said he had not yet received the report, but added that "if the four Cambodian parties agree it would be great."

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila told reporters the issue should be raised at an international conference on Cambodia due to start on July 30.

He said a truce pact could be signed there, but added that he thinks it will be impossible to get the Cambodian factions to agree on it.

Both Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the three-party guerrilla coalition, said in May they agreed in principle to a ceasefire. But the Khmer Rouge, the largest and most hard-line guerrilla force, rejected it unless Vietnamese forces first withdrew under international supervision.

Vietnam has pledged to withdraw all its estimated 60,000 to 70,000 troops by September 30, whether there is a settlement or not.

Another Radio Hanoi broadcast yesterday said Hun Sen stopped in Hanoi the day before on his way to the Paris talks and conferred with Prime Minister Do Muoi and Thach.

Chatchai Receives French Deputy Defense Minister
BK2107075389 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
1300 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] French Deputy Defense Minister Gerard Renon, accompanied by Permanent Secretary for Defense General Wichit Wichitsongkham, paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan at Government House at 1600 today on the occasion of his visit to Thailand as a guest of the Defense Ministry. Major details of their talks are summarized below:

The French deputy minister emphasized the French Government's policy on promoting and strengthening relations between the two countries, especially in the field of security. He said that he has had a chance to learn useful information during his visit to Thailand. The Thai prime minister called on the French Government to consider cooperation with Thailand in developing the Southeast Asian region, which will be beneficial to all sides and will promote peace in the region. In addition, the two sides also discussed the settlement of the Cambodian issue, which now has a bright prospect. They believed that the upcoming International Conference on Cambodia, to be held in Paris in early August, will be another step toward establishing peace in Indochina. Thailand's policy of turning the Indochinese battlefield into a marketplace has been accepted by all sides. However, the settlement of the Cambodian issue should start with a cease-fire and the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cambodia.

Requests More Cooperation

BK2107084089 Bangkok TNA in English 0508 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Bangkok, Jul. 21 (OANA-TNA)—Thai Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan requested more cooperation from the French Government for the development of Southeast Asian region which will bring common benefit and peace to all nations in the region.

Gen Chatchai made the remarks to French Deputy Secretary of State for Defense Gerard Renon, who paid a courtesy call on him at Government House Thursday. Mr Renon arrived here Thursday [20 July] from Kuala Lumpur after his three-day visit to Malaysia as a guest of Thai Defense Ministry.

During the meeting, Gen Chatchai and Mr Renon discussed the Kampuchean problem which they viewed as having an increasingly bright prospect for solution of the problem. Both sides believed that the International Conference on Cambodia (ICC) to be held in Paris, France at the end of this month, would be another step forward for the peace process in Indochina. In addition, Thailand's policy to change a battlefield in Indochina to be a marketplace was also accepted by all parties concerned.

However, Gen Chatchai reiterated his view that the Kampuchean solution could be attained with the starting of a ceasefire and the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Kampuchea.

Mr Renon also briefed the Thai premier on the preparations for the ICC in Paris. He also stressed on French policy to strengthen bilateral relationship between Thailand and France especially the security cooperation.

Gen Chatchai has accepted an invitation to visit France during October 1-4. The invitation was contained in a letter by his French counterpart Premier Michel Rocard and was extended to him by Mr Renon.

French Minister Visits Air Chief

BK2107063489 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said that he discussed the Cambodian problem with visiting French Deputy Defense Minister Gerard Renon this morning. The discussion involved the coming international conference on Cambodia which will be held in Paris. Sitthi said he expressed his concern that the issue of national reconciliation among the four Cambodian factions should be included in the conference because it is at the heart of the Cambodian problem. That is, the four Cambodian factions must be able to agree among themselves first before the conference can achieve any progress. The French visitor agreed in principle. The matter will be discussed again in Paris.

Senior FRC Diplomat Meets Premier on Cambodia

BK2107125089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1232 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Excerpts] Bangkok, July 21 (AFP)—Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan held talks with Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Liu Shuqing here Friday on the Cambodian conflict and the recent unrest in China, a government spokesman said.

Both repeated their desire to see a quadripartite government in Phnom Penh joining the warring factions with Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk as president, Suwit Yotmani said.

Mr. Chatchai and Mr. Liu called on Vietnam to fulfill its pledge to withdraw all its troops from Cambodia by the end of September, Mr. Suwit said.

Mr. Liu said Beijing has made no changes to its foreign and domestic policies despite the crisis that rocked China in June, Mr. Suwit said.

He also thanked Bangkok for not interfering in China's internal affairs during the uprising which was crushed by government forces, Mr. Suwit said.

Both sides agreed that Thailand and China had shared and would continue to share "close relations," Mr. Suwit said.

Mr. Liu and Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetasila met here Thursday to review preparations for the International Conference on Cambodia starting on July 30 in Paris. [passage omitted]

Mr. Lui is scheduled leave Bangkok for Beijing on Tuesday [25 July].

Talks to Foreign Minister

BK2107074189 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Jul 89 p 6

[Text] China believes that a fourth commission to deal with the question of "national reconciliation" should be set up at the upcoming international conference on Cambodia in Paris, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said yesterday.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi's remark came after his meeting with Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Liu Shuqing, who is visiting Thailand from July 18-25.

ACM Sitthi and Mr Liu yesterday discussed the Paris conference to take place at the end of this month.

Mr Liu also wanted to know the results of the recent ASEAN ministerial meeting in Brunei concerning the Cambodian problem.

ACM Sitthi said Thailand and China shared the opinion that there must be a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem and that consideration of the so-called external aspects alone cannot solve the problem.

China says an objective must be set before going to Paris and that all sides should not see a withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia alone as the way to completely settle the Cambodian problem, he said.

ACM Sitthi said China wants a fourth commission to deal with "national reconciliation" at the Paris meeting.

France has proposed that three working commissions be set up to handle the following issues: The Vietnamese pullout, an international control mechanism to monitor the withdrawal, and repatriation of Cambodian refugees and economic reconstruction.

Asked whether Thailand agrees with the setting up of a fourth commission, ACM Sitthi said the question of national reconciliation should be discussed in Paris.

It is possible that national reconciliation will be included for discussion by one of the three commissions proposed by France without having to set up a fourth one, he said.

Asked about Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's remark following a meeting with his Indonesian counterpart Ali Alatas in Hanoi that Vietnam and Indonesia rejected the ASEAN joint communique issued after the Brunei meeting as "unrealistic", ACM Sitthi said he had not yet received a report on this from the Thai Embassy there.

He said the joint communique has been endorsed and Vietnam or Indonesia alone cannot reject it.

Mr Liu did not mention China's internal problem during his meeting with ACM Sitthi yesterday.

Lao Foreign Ministry Message on 'Cold War'

BK2107121289 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai
1030 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] According a report from the Foreign Ministry, in connection with the Foreign Ministry's letter to the Lao Foreign Ministry asking for explanation for the article criticizing Thai economic and trade policy which was broadcast by the Lao radio on 4 July—as reported in two English-language Thai newspapers—the Lao side has replied through the Thai Embassy in Vientiane. In its explanation, the Lao side says it is aware of the matter and is investigating the source of the article. It says normally, Vientiane Radio will only read on the air news released by the government. It also says every item which goes on the air is read from Lao papers, which belong to the government. However, the article in question did not appear in the Lao papers. In any event, the Lao Foreign Ministry acknowledges that it heard the article on an English-language version of a foreign radio.

The report [of the Thai Foreign Ministry] also said that after the incident, Lao papers on 19 July published the article in question but there were no references to Thai economic and trade policy toward Laos.

According to the report, the Thai Embassy in Vientiane received details of the article which was broadcast on the Lao radio from the U.S. Embassy there. The U.S. Embassy in Vientiane monitored the article in question, which was entitled "The Cold War" and written by Po Siviangkham.

SRV Leaflets Urge Cut in Khmer Assistance

BK2107015789 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Jul 89 p 6

[Text] Aranyaprathet—Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin troops have dumped thousands of leaflets along the Thai-Cambodian border, urging Thai authorities to stop providing aid and sanctuary to the Khmer resistance, sources said yesterday.

The leaflets, in both Thai and Khmer, were addressed to the Border Patrol Police, the military and border area villagers as an advance notice of a drive against the resistance forces along the border.

"The Government of Cambodia has its own policy towards building its country and has no intention of violating its neighbours' sovereignty and territorial integrity," the leaflets said.

"We ask the Thai Government, its military and people not to provide assistance in any form to the three resistance factions."

They also warned people along the border to keep away from the resistance forces as a precaution against possible danger.

"In instances where government suppression of the resistance spills into Thai villages and/or military encampments, we ask to be immediately notified."

—Meanwhile, stray shells rained on five Thai border villages about 15 kilometres south of here last night as Vietnamese troops launched a major offensive against Khmer Rouge positions inside Cambodia.

Village chiefs of Ban Saen Suk, Ban Mai Pak Hong, Ban Khlong Nam Sai, Ban Khao Noi Si Chomphu and Ban Thung Ruang Thong reported to the district office at 8 p.m. that the residents had been moved into bunkers.

Lao Agricultural Officials Arrive for Training

BK2107021589 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
21 Jul 89 p 3

[Text] About 50 Laotian agriculture officials have arrived in Thailand for short-term training on farming, irrigation and cooperative management techniques under a technical cooperation programme funded by the Thai government, a senior agriculture ministry official said.

Permanent Secretary for Agriculture Chunlanop Sanitwong na Ayutthaya said the training is jointly funded by the Technical and Economic Cooperation Department of the PM's [prime minister] Office and the ministry.

The training focuses on irrigation, seedling production, fishery, farm management and land development, among other farming techniques. The Laotians will be attached to various provincial agricultural ministry offices throughout the country, receiving on-the-job training.

"The Laotian government is very interested in sending its officials here to undergo technical training courses this year. During the past several years they only sent five to ten officials each year," the permanent secretary said.

The Technical and Economic Cooperation Department has granted Bt[Baht] 523,000 for the accommodation of the Laotian officials during their stay here beginning this month through to September, Chunlanop said.

Thai State Bank To Open Vientiane Office

BK2107085089 Bangkok *TNA* in English 0803 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Bangkok, Jul.21 (OANA-TNA)—A state-run bank here is planning to set up its representative office in Laos to provide consultative services to Thai and Laotian businessmen, a senior official of the bank said here Friday.

Krung Thai Bank's Foreign Bank Division Manager Suchin Samutthawanit told TNA that he will depart here for Vientiane to hold talks with the Central State Bank of Laos at the end of this month. The talks will focus on acquiring a license for the setting up of Krung Thai's representative office in the Laotian capital city. The main function of the office is to give consultation on trade matters particularly investment, exports and imports, and other business information to Thai and Laotian businessmen.

Suchin said at the beginning the bank would invest not more than 80,000 US dollars for the setting up of the office. In addition to two officials of the bank being posted at the office, two local staff-members will also be recruited, Suchin added.

The trade relation between the two countries have been in good condition. Thai businessmen were trusted by Laotian authorities to open letter of credit (LC) with large amount of money through Krung Thai Bank. However there were some problems that emerged recently, some businessmen forgot to deliver their goods after payment had been made by Laotian importers. Laotian authorities have requested Krung Thai Bank to help solve the problem.

Government Approves Joint Burma Border Committee

BK2107020589 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
21 Jul 89 p 3

[Text] The Thai government has approved the nominations to the Thai-Burmese joint regional border committee which will hold its first meeting on ways to resolve border conflicts next month, Third Army Region Commander Lt Gen Siri Thiwaphan said yesterday.

The Thai co-chairman of the committee, Lt Gen Siri said with the committee, border disputes could be quickly resolved as the Thai and Burmese members could get in touch with each other immediately.

The committee comprises about 20 members.

Official Comments on Trade With Burma

BK2107105889 Bangkok *TNA* in English 1018 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Chiang Rai, Jul. 21 (OANA-TNA)—Thailand enjoyed trade surplus of 194 million baht or about 7.5 million US dollars with Myanma [Burma], a senior commercial official in this northern province of Thailand said here Friday.

Chiang Rai's Commercial Official Samran Sothisawarot told TNA of the border trade in Mai Sai District of Chiang Rai and Tachileik District of Myanmar which was in Thailand's favour of 194 million baht.

Samran said Myanmar mostly imported women robes, ready-made clothes, seasoning powder, synthetic fibre, corrugated iron and other goods from Thailand. Major Myanmar's products to Thailand were precious stones, embroidered cloth and spice worth 2.13 million baht during the period.

Pirates Admit Killing Vietnamese Boat People
BK2107055589 Bangkok THE NATION in English
21 Jul 89 p 4

[Text] Songkhla—Three fishermen who confessed to murdering 56 Vietnamese boat people off the south-east coast of Thailand in March said yesterday they smashed some of their victims' knees with axes to prevent them from floating in the water.

The three suspects were arrested on Tuesday and was identified by the two survivors of the massacre yesterday. The two Vietnamese were brought to Songkhla from a refugee camp in Malaysia by officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The suspects told police in front of reporters at marine headquarters here that they killed the refugees because they were afraid of being arrested.

"We were told by other fishermen that if we attacked a refugee boat we must kill the refugees or else they would tell police who would arrest us," one of the suspects, 27-year-old Bunrap Ruangdit said.

The other two suspects were identified as Wichok Wongkan and Amnuai Saenghiran, both 19. The three were arrested aboard a trawler while fishing off the coast here on Tuesday.

Police said there were five fishermen in the gang that attacked a boat carrying 58 Vietnamese refugees in open waters close to Malaysia.

The pirates reportedly used knives to kill many of the refugees, including children, and smashed the knees of others so they could not swim once thrown into the sea.

Only two people survived and were later picked up in Malaysia waters where they related their ordeal to refugee officials.

One of the survivors, a young boy identified as Do Va, said the pirates smashed his knees with an axe and threw him into the water but he managed to stay afloat on a piece of wood. After believing all the refugees had died, the pirates left and he made his way back to the boat where he met the other survivor.

Pham Loc Van said he jumped off the boat just before the pirates boarded and hid underneath until dusk when he climbed back into the vessel.

"I knew I would be killed if I remained onboard. While in the water I saw one body after another thrown overboard by the pirates," he recalled.

One of the suspects, Bunrap, said it was the first time they had attacked boat people and said he regretted having committed the murders.

"I will accept a death sentence for the crime," he said.

Bunrap, who police said was the leader of the pirates, said he and the other fishermen took valuables worth about Bt [baht] 10,000 from the refugees.

The two survivors said they could remember Bunrap partly because of the tattoo of a leaping tiger on his chest. The tattoo pattern is popular among Thai fishermen.

UN Moves Late Vietnamese Refugees to Transit Camp
BK2107015389 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Jul 89 p 6

[Text] Ta Phraya, Prachin Buri—The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] yesterday began transferring 6,372 Vietnamese refugees from the Bantad camp here to the transit centre at Phanat Nikhom in Chon Buri.

The move was organised by the UNHCR under an agreement with the National Security Council and the Interior Ministry.

The majority of the displaced Vietnamese arrived in Thailand before the March 14 cutoff date, when the ASEAN countries declared that people fleeing Vietnam would no longer be given automatic refugees status. They will be interviewed for resettlement in third countries.

The interviews are part of efforts to solve the refugee problem under the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) endorsed in Geneva last June.

The CPA, designed to deal with the current situation 10 years after the first international conference in July 1979, is an integrated package that provides measures for coping with the problem from start to finish.

It calls for effective measures in the country of origin to stem clandestine departures, accelerated and expanded orderly departure programmes, continued first-asylum, resettlement, screening and voluntary repatriation.

According to the CPA, displaced Vietnamese people will be resettled in third countries within three years. It is hoped that half of them can be resettled within a year.

Of the total, 1,473 arrived after the cutoff date. They will be transported from Banthat camp to Phanat Nikhom for screening.

The first batch of 600 Vietnamese refugees boarded 10 buses for Phanat Nikhom yesterday morning and the transfer will continue for another 11 days until the last person leaves the camp.

A Thai refugee official said no Vietnamese refugees will remain at the camp. If any new Vietnamese boat people arrive, they will be considered illegal immigrants and sent to Phanat Nikhom transit centre. So far Vietnam has taken only a few Vietnamese refugees from Thailand, the official said.

Cambodian Border Refugee Camp Shelled

BK2107134289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1330 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Bangkok, July 21 (AFP)—One refugee was killed and 10 wounded when a Khmer Rouge-controlled refugee camp on the Thai - Cambodian border came under artillery fire from inside Cambodia Friday, relief officials said.

The officials said the wounded had been evacuated from Site 8 camp, some 250 kilometers (155 miles) east of here to a hospital in the nearby camp of Khao-I Dang which is administered by the Thai military.

The sprawling Site 8 camp, which houses some 40,000 non-combatants of the Marxist Khmer Rouge, was closed to relief workers after the shelling started and was expected to remain closed Saturday, they said.

Heavy shelling began in an area from Site 8 to the border town of Aranyaprathet, some 15 kilometers (eight miles) north of the camp, after leaflets were dumped on the border warning Thais to stay away from refugee camps and Cambodian resistance positions, observers in Aranyaprathet said.

The leaflets, dumped by troops of the Vietnamese-backed regime in Cambodia, also urged Thailand to stop providing aid to the three factions of the Cambodian resistance, the observers said.

"We ask the Thai Government, its military and people not to provide assistance in any form to the three resistance factions," the leaflets said.

The resistance groups anti-communist supporters of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Son Sann with the Khmer Rouge.

Bangkok has denied that it provides military aid to the United Nations-seated resistance coalition, which launches attacks on Vietnamese and pro-Phnom Penh troops inside Cambodia from jungle sanctuaries along the Thai - Cambodian border.

"In instances where government suppression of the resistance spills into Thai villages and or military encampments, we ask to be immediately notified," the leaflets said.

Stray shells fell in Thai territory all along the 15 kilometer (eight mile) stretch, forcing residents of at least five villages to take shelter in bunkers, officials in Aranyaprathet said.

Vietnamese and Phnom Penh troops launched a heavy mortar, artillery and missile attack on Tuesday against a Khmer Rouge field hospital and black-market trading post at Dong Suatai near the Phnom Malai Heights on the border.

The Khmer Rouge form the military muscle of the resistance coalition which is fighting the Phnom Penh regime, installed by Hanoi after Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia in late 1978.

Some 300,000 non-combatants of the resistance coalition live in eight United Nations-aided camps along the border, five of them Khmer Rouge.

Live TV Coverage of Censure Debate Noted

BK2107005989 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jul 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Seeing Democracy in Action—Live"]

[Text] After two exhaustive days of trading fiery diatribes in a marathon censure debate, opposition and government MPs will today cast crucial votes which will determine the fates of Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan, PM's [prime minister] Office Minister Chaloeun Yubamrung, Agriculture Minister Sanan Khachonprasat and Science Minister Prachuap Chaيسان.

With their overwhelmingly numerical advantage in the House of Representatives, it looks quite certain—which is also accepted by the Opposition—that the four ministers will survive the no-confidence debate. On the instructions of party whips, government MPs are likely to show up in full force to vote for the four ministers in order to demonstrate the spirit of solidarity among the coalition partners. It is also time that intra-party or inter-party grudges be buried temporarily.

Government MPs may find it an inescapable obligation to follow party lines without any serious regard as to how poor or how impressive the four ministers had performed in Parliament during the censure debate. But they should not forget that in the past two days the performances of the four ministers and those of other representatives were also under the glare of millions of constituents—thanks to the openness and liberal-mindedness of the Government in allowing live television coverage of the important event without any censorship.

The constituents may have already judged in their minds how they feel about the four "grilled" ministers—which may or may not correspond with the decision to be taken by government MPs today.

Let the people judge for themselves," announced a combative Minister Chaloeem during the debate.

Therefore, in a way, how the MPs vote today will also be subjected to close public scrutiny. Their performances, too, will be judged by the public.

This privilege of live television exposure which was regrettably denied to the public in previous administrations has, strangely, created a somewhat healthy political phenomenon which might be attributable to the desire of the MPs themselves to project a positive image before the glare of television viewers. Noticeably, the opposition MPs who took part in the "grilling" and the "grilled" ministers had done their homework properly and prepared themselves fairly well. Chaloeemphan Siwikon, a leading member of the opposition camp, even backed up his rhetoric with solid documentary evidence against Minister Chaloeem. Most also demonstrated good discipline—a view also shared by House speaker Pancha Kesonthong.

Apparently, such was the magic of the live television broadcast which seems to work effectively with the craving for image-building or image-boosting among our lawmakers. It was claimed that exposure on live television can work wonders for a speaker or bring him disaster. But whatever the outcome, we believe the public will benefit tremendously.

It is hoped that this attitude of openness and liberalism will continue to prevail in this administration. And, hopefully, the public will continue to enjoy this new form of free flow of information.

Ministers Survive Censure Vote

BK2107064889 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] In the National Assembly this morning, the House of Representatives held a meeting chaired by House Speaker Pancha Kesonthong to vote on the no-confidence censure against four cabinet ministers following the 19-20 July debates.

The four targeted ministers are Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan; Police Captain Chaloeem Yubamrung, minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office; Major General Sanan Khachonprasat, agriculture and cooperatives minister; and Science, Technology, and Energy Minister Prachuap Chaiyasan.

According to the Constitution, the no-confidence vote will succeed only if more than half of the members of parliament—or more than 179—cast no-confidence votes.

The meeting began at 1055 and adjourned at 1108. The final results of the voting were as follows:

Commerce Minister Dr Subin Pinkhayan received 208 supporting votes and 70 no-confidence votes; Police Captain Chaloeem Yubamrung received 210 votes for and 90 votes against; Major General Sanan Khachonprasat received 186 votes for and 89 votes against; and Science, Technology, and Energy Minister Prachuap Chaiyasan received 205 votes for and 88 votes against.

Such results showed that the number of no-confidence votes cast against each of the four ministers did not exceed half of the number of members of parliament. Therefore, it is regarded that the House of Representatives maintains confidence in the ministers, thus enabling them to continue their administrative duties.

Editor Sees Cabinet Reshuffle Coming

BK2007010589 Bangkok THE NATION in English
20 Jul 89 p 8

[Editorial: "The 'No Problem' Coalition"]

[Text] Whether the censure debate yesterday served any real political purpose is hard to tell. But it certainly was not an effective means of making the Chatchai administration accountable to the House or the Opposition.

Only four of the 45 Cabinet members were targeted for the censure. This does not mean the rest are beyond reproach. The four will likely win the vote of confidence because the six parties in the government coalition have 229 MPs in the 357-member House. This does not mean the four are flawless either.

The Opposition is in itself badly divided. The Solidarity and the Puangchon Chao Thai parties, which sponsored the censure motion, could not explain clearly why they chose not to touch any Chat Thai ministers. The Prachakon Thai, the second largest party in the Opposition, stayed out of the debate, giving some credence to the persistent reports of an imminent Cabinet reshuffle, in which the Prachakon Thai will be taken into a new Chat Thailed coalition.

Ever since the censure motion was submitted late last month there have been reports about the Chat Thai party bosses thinking about a Cabinet reshuffle. The logic behind this thinking seems to be that any change in the current government coalition will definitely be for the better. In other words, some coalition partners are becoming a painful liability and it will be difficult, or impossible, to keep them in the government much longer.

But how to tell which party in the Opposition will make a good coalition partner? The Solidarity is too big (it has 62 MPs, the second largest next to the Chat Thai, which has 96 MPs) and top-heavy. The Puangchon Chao Thai

(17 MPs) is too small to make a difference. The Prachakon Thai (31 MPs) is a good size but its leader, Samak Sunthonwet, may not get along with some Chat Thai party bosses, especially Industry Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha, who is party secretary-general.

Another question is which party or parties will be cut off? The answer will appear in the voting on the four ministers after the censure debate. But don't be surprised if there will be no Cabinet reshuffle and the Prime Minister says he has "no problem".

One glaring problem that we see is that there is no better or more effective way to hold Cabinet ministers immediately accountable for what they are doing. Many of the charges the opposition MPs and the ministers threw at one another during the debate are serious criminal offences. If the Prime Minister ignores them, that is a real problem.

Operations Center Assesses Government Situation
BK2007145589 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
16 Jul 89 p 22

[Text] A Government House source disclosed that high-ranking officials from Government House and the National Operations Center had on 13 July jointly assessed the situation of the government prior to the prime minister making public the government's achievements on the occasion of its 1-year anniversary in August. The assessment found that over the past 4 to 5 months, several problems had taken place that affected the government's stability. These included the constitutional amendment, the deliberation of the Land Reform Bill by the House of Representatives, the move to return confiscated assets to Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon and his group, the revamp of the board of directors of the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand [EGAT], the deliberation of the social security bill, and the censure motion against four ministers.

"Although the problems are a test for the prime minister in his capacity as the government leader, the prime minister's close aides and advisors say that if the situation is allowed to continue, the government will not manage to tackle the country's problems within its tenure of office, which is expected to last only 2.5-3.5 years," the source said.

The source disclosed that although the problems occurred one after another and had affected the government's stability on several occasions, the pressure groups—especially the people—did not make any move to shake up the government. Maybe they realized that this government was born of an election. The situation is also not so favorable for the military pressure group, because the group is afraid that the government may try to have a greater role in the appointment of the Army commander in chief.

"The meeting agreed that it is time for the government to make a big leap to solve the problems so that the government's stated policies and intentions—most of which came from the prime minister's advisers—can be achieved," the source said.

The source said the assessment found that the government should be careful about and solve three problems. First, some ministers will become a weak point for the government because they do not understand social patterns, as seen in the dismissal of the board of directors of EGAT. Second, the recruitment of more businessmen into the government administration may be seen as creating a new interest group. Third, since the government has a majority in the National Assembly, it could propose or approve bills that are not reasonable and not a conducive response to the people's needs.

The source said that following the assessment, some solutions were summed up for the prime minister. The prime minister is advised to give priority to making sure that cabinet ministers steer clear from corruption involvement as much as possible.

12 Killed in Court Bombing in Nakhon Ratchasima
BK1907144589 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1300 GMT 19 Jul 89

[Excerpt] An explosion took place outside a courtroom in Nakhon Ratchasima Province at 1150 today. The blast instantly killed six people, including Somchai Loetwaralak or Sia Yae, manager of Sahasomchai Construction Company; Phatthana Kitchanchai, his lawyer; and Sunthon Loetwaralak, his brother. Six more people among the 13 who were severely wounded in the blast died later at the hospital.

Our reporter said that the powerful blast had shattered the glass window at the front of the court and left a big hole in the ceiling. Blood trails covered the entire stairway.

According to Kriangchai Chungchaturaphit, chief judge of Nakhon Ratchasima Court, the bombing took place at noon after the hearing of a case involving a breach of hiring contract. Mr Somchai, or Sia Yae, filed a suit accusing the Ratchasima Timber Trading Company of breach of contract and demanding compensation. The court proceeding in the morning ended up with both parties agreeing to settle their dispute. As they were leaving the courtroom and reaching the stairway, the bomb exploded—killing a number of people. The wounded were rushed to Maharat Hospital.

After investigation at the site of the explosion, police assumed that the bomb used was an incendiary bomb with remote control.

The court case involves breach of contract, and the prosecutor demanded compensation for damages worth several million baht. Both parties to the case are highly influential businessmen. Police are trying to determine the motive behind the killing. [passage omitted]

Political Motive Ruled Out

BK2107011589 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Jul 89 p 4

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Praman Adireksan yesterday ruled out political motive as being the cause of the killing of business tycoon Somchai "Sia Yae" Loekwaralak and 10 others in a bomb attack in front of the Nakhon Ratchasima court.

Three police investigation teams set up on Wednesday [18 July] after the bomb attack met yesterday under the chairmanship of Second Region Provincial Police Commissioner Bunthin Wongrakmit to discuss possible motives for the attack in which eight others were wounded.

"It's possible that the assailants are the same group of persons who attempted to kill Sia Yae in his hometown in Wiset Chaichan District of Ang Thong last year," Pol Lt-Gen Bunthin said.

The commissioner declined to speculate what the exact cause of the killing was, saying that police were still investigating because Sia Yae had a lot of enemies.

Sia Yae, his body guards and his lawyers were emerging from the court building on Wednesday after settling a dispute over the right to 200 million baht worth of logs with two timber companies when a bomb, believed to be detonated by a remote control device, went off.

Six persons were killed on the spot while Sia Yae and five others died later at a local hospital. Two bystanders were among those killed, police said. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

Talks With U.S. on Emigration Scheduled

BK2007163389 Hong Kong AFP in English 1626 GMT
20 Jul 89

[Text] Hanoi, July 20 (AFP)—A U.S. delegation is due to arrive here soon for talks with Vietnamese officials on the possible emigration to the United States of former officials of the South Vietnamese Government, a Vietnamese official said here Thursday.

"A meeting between Vietnam and the United States on humanitarian problems, including the problem of prisoners freed from re-education camps who have asked to emigrate to the United States, is scheduled for July 26 to 29 in Hanoi," the head of the Foreign Ministry's Press Office, Ho The Lan, said.

The former prisoners, generally released in the last two years, are mostly former military and civil officials of the U.S.-backed South Vietnamese Government who were unable to leave the country before it fell to the North Vietnamese in 1975.

The U.S. delegation is due to be led by the head of the State Department's Refugee Office, Robert Funseth, while the Hanoi delegation will be headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, Ms Lan said.

Washington has said it is willing to accept the former officials and their families within the context of the Orderly Departure Programme set up by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in 1977.

The programme provides for legal immigration from Vietnam and aimed at stopping the flow of illegal refugees.

Also Thursday, Ms Lan said Vietnam would return several sets of remains to the United States believed to belong to U.S. soldiers listed as missing in action (MIA) during the Vietnam war.

A seventh joint search for the remains of other MIAs is due to start at the beginning of August in central Vietnam, she said.

She added that construction of a transit centre would begin at the same time in Ho Chi Minh City to "speed up the emigration programme," for Amerasians, children born during the Vietnam war of U.S. fathers and Vietnamese mothers.

The centre, financed by the United States, would allow for the grouping together of the Amerasians, Ms Lan said.

U.S. sources said it was difficult to give an accurate figure for the number of Amerasians in Vietnam, but put the total at over 20,000.

Stance for Paris 'Flexible', Except on Khmer Rouge

BK2107071589 Hong Kong AFP in English 0702 GMT
21 Jul 89

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Hanoi, July 21 (AFP)—Vietnam's delegation to an international conference on Cambodia in Paris will oppose a political role for the Khmer Rouge but will show flexibility on all other issues, a Vietnamese official said Friday.

Hanoi will consider softening its opposition to a U.N. role in a settlement to the 10-year-old conflict, and will be conciliatory on the issue of how to forge an internal political solution for Cambodia, Tran Quang Co said.

Mr. Co, a deputy foreign minister with the Cambodia portfolio, added: "We totally support the position of (Phnom Penh Premier) Hun Sen who opposes the participation of the Khmer Rouge in power-sharing before the elections."

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach is to lead the Vietnamese delegation to the conference which is to open in Paris on July 30 while Mr. Co will be second in command.

All four warring Cambodian factions will attend along with Vietnam, Laos, the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other countries including Japan, India, Canada and Australia.

The permanent members of the U.N. Security council are China, Britain, France, the United States and the Soviet Union, while ASEAN groups Brunei, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines.

For Vietnam, the two "key problems" to discuss in Paris are "the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops and the elimination of the Khmer Rouge, in line with the conclusions of the Jakarta meetings," Mr. Co said.

The July 1988 and February 1989 Jakarta meetings, which brought together the resistance coalition, Phnom Penh, Vietnam, Laos and ASEAN members, established a link between the Vietnamese pullout and an end to aid to the factions.

The tripartite Cambodian resistance, led by former Cambodian Monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk, comprises his supporters, those of former Prime Minister Son Sann and the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, militarily the strongest faction.

Vietnam may reconsider its position on a U.N. role in a settlement, although it would still prefer "that the U.N. not participate in the settlement until after the conference," Mr. Co said. "We are prepared to consider the important role of the U.N. as long as the United Nations will have an impartial position that reflects the reality of Cambodia," he added.

Vietnam had maintained that the U.N. was not an appropriate party in a settlement because Cambodia's U.N. seat is held by the resistance coalition.

Hanoi is expecting a "gesture" from the United Nations on this point, such as a "letter of intent," according to an informed Vietnamese source.

Mr. Co stressed that Vietnam was amenable to international oversight of the Vietnamese pullout in September "in tandem with control over a halt to aid to the Cambodian factions."

He added: "If this were not the case it would create conditions favorable to civil war and the return of the Khmer Rouge." He repeated the Vietnamese pledge that the troop pullout "will take place in any case at the end of September."

The Khmer Rouge, held responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of civilians while in power, were toppled by Vietnam in a December 1978 invasion.

But Vietnam still rejects the idea of an armed international peacekeeping force. "We do not think it necessary that the international control mechanism have an armed force," Mr. Co said.

"It would be useless because this force would not be able to control the whole country and would make the situation in Cambodia even more confused."

France this week sent a memorandum to conference participants proposing that meetings in Paris ahead of the conference among the Cambodian factions, planned for Monday and Tuesday, should be extended and continue beyond the opening of the international conference.

Mr. Hun Sen is to meet with Prince Sihanouk on Monday and with representatives of all three resistance factions on Tuesday.

Vietnam, which had maintained that an internal political settlement was a strictly Cambodian issue, has changed its position. "If the Cambodian side thinks it should continue the discussions after the conference opens, we are no longer opposed in principle," Mr. Co said.

Vietnam will also be "flexible" on what countries attend the conference although it hopes for a "more balanced" composition. Hanoi has asked that several countries attend, including Sweden, Finland, Austria and Poland.

It has also asked that a leadership role be accorded to Laos, India or the Soviet Union. "We think we can talk about it, but it won't be an obstacle," Mr. Co said.

Hai Hung, Vientiane Provinces Sign Agreement *BK2007154789 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT* 20 Jul 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 20—An agreement on economic and technical cooperation between Vietnam's Hai Hung Province and the Lao province of Vientiane was signed in Hai Hung recently during a visit by a Vientiane administrative delegation.

The delegation of the Hai Hung Province included Le Duc Binh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of the provincial party committee, and Nguyen Trong Hien, chairman of the

provincial people's committee, and its Vientiane counterpart was led by Senior Lieutenant-General Siphone Phalikhhan, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, secretary of the Vientiane party committee, and chairman of the Administrative Committee of Vientiane province.

Public's View on Violations Draft Bill Solicited

BK2107090689 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] Implementing the 1989 plan for consolidating the legal system that the National Assembly and the Council of State adopted at their meeting on 25 April 1989, the Council of State has instructed the organs concerned to review the draft bill on penalty for administrative violations and decided to solicit public opinions pending official ratification.

Complying with the Council of State's order and through the mass media, the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State hereby keeps the people informed of the contents of the draft bill on penalty for administrative violations so they may contribute their opinions.

In addition to direct exchanges of views with state agencies, social organizations, and mass societies, all collectives and individuals may send their suggestions in the mail. No postage is required and the words "Contribution of Views to the Draft Bill on Penalty for Administrative Violations" should be clearly written on the envelopes. Letters should be forwarded to the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State, 35 Ngo Quyen, Hanoi, before 20 September 1989 at the latest.

'Deteriorating' Social Order in South Reported

BK2107102589 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 7 Jun 89 pp 1-2

[Text] In Ho Chi Minh City on 5 and 6 June 1989, the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee [VFF] Secretariat, the Ministry of Interior, and the party Central Committee Internal Affairs Department jointly held a conference on progressive models under the mass movement for national security and defense in southern provinces. Attending the conference were more than 200 delegates comprising chairmen of fatherland front committees, heads of provincial and city police offices, and representatives of progressive units of this movement in southern provinces.

Addressing the opening session, Comrade Pham Van Kiet, vice chairman and secretary general of the VFF Central Committee, stressed the increasingly adverse effects caused by the deteriorating situation of social order and safety during the past several years. In 1988, criminal cases increased by 27 percent and serious ones by 26 percent as compared with 1987. About 66 percent of the offenders were youths; 11 percent were teenagers. The violent nature of these cases became more serious,

while disputes between people were not promptly settled, thus leading to killings in many cases. However, some provinces and establishments have satisfactorily taken care of the people's daily lives, thus being able to mobilize the people to participate in maintaining social order and safety effectively.

Almost 60 reports, mostly from grass-roots units, were distributed to delegates at the conference for study, including three reports from Tan Binh District, Fifth Precinct's Subward No 3, and the Thanh Cong textile factory of Ho Chi Minh City.

Interior Minister Mai Chi Tho attended the meeting and warmly welcomed various model units. He stressed that only by relying on the strength of the masses will we be able to resolve pressing problems related to security and social order in the current situation. In his hour-long speech at the conference, Comrade Mai Chi Tho, on many occasions, raised the necessity to take good care of the people and to motivate and make everyone realize his duty in helping maintain security and social order. We must motivate the people to participate in maintaining political security and combine this task with the maintenance of social order, he stressed.

Villagers Hold Police, Local Officials Hostage

BK2107105789 Hong Kong AFP in English 1043 GMT 21 Jul 89

[Text] Hanoi, July 21 (AFP)—Three magistrates and two policemen have been held more than three weeks by residents of a small village following a dispute over corruption and fraud, the Vietnamese press said Friday.

The official NHAN DAN daily said the incident began on June 28 when a communist party official from Trieu Son District, which includes the village of Cong Hoa, some 100 kilometres south of Hanoi, came to Cong Hoa to announce plans for a road that would have to cut through some farmland.

After the official refused to discuss the matter with villagers who opposed the road, they took him prisoner for a day, the paper said.

The villagers used the occasion to call for an inquiry into corruption and embezzlement by the mayor and the head of the local farming cooperative.

The next day, magistrates and policemen tried to arrest six people "accused of rebellion," but the villagers prevented the officials from making the arrests.

On June 30, "a large number of armed police with dogs" returned to the village for another try. The communist youth newspaper TIEN PHONG said the police arrived with "special machines," probably armoured vehicles.

In an ensuing clash, the police dogs were killed and two villagers received gunshot wounds.

The villagers have been holding three magistrates and two policemen ever since, TIEN PHONG said, while authorities continue to negotiate for their release.

Feature Views Threat Posed by 'Black Videos'

*BK2107024889 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[“Talk of the Week” feature]

[Text] How to prevent degenerated videos has increasingly been becoming an urgent task for cultural workers here in Vietnam. In today’s “Talk of the Week,” we will tell you something about this.

It has been a fact, as recognized by Vietnamese Minister of Culture Tran Van Phac at the recent fifth session of the National Assembly eighth Legislature, that degenerated videos have become a major problem for all localities. The underlying cause of this problem, said the culture minister, lies in the lack of control of videos. Minister Tran Van Phac warned of serious consequences if we fail to take appropriate measures to prevent the threat of degenerated video mania. According to a recent survey, Vietnam now has about 40,000 video cassette players, most of them were smuggled into the country through private channels. In the southern provinces, the number of video houses where degenerated tapes are available has surpassed that of movie houses and theaters. Surely, degenerated videos have been exerting a very bad impact on the cultural life of Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and many other towns. Video watchers are exposed to all kinds of evil, pornography, and violence that poison the minds of the young.

What is causing public concern is the fact that the unhealthy contents of videotapes tend to overwhelm other cultural activities and change the traditional values of the Vietnamese. Recently, the Ministry of Culture released a decision on strengthening control over videotapes. This decision has been announced by the mass media. It stated that video cassette players and tapes are a modern means of one-way communications. All public institutions and individuals are entitled to possess and use videos. However, all videotapes are subject to approval to the Ministry of Culture. The export, import, stockpile, and circulation of videotapes with pornographic, violent, inciting, and reactionary contents are strictly banned.

Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh said that ideological and cultural tasks must play a leading role in the entire renovation process of the country. The Vietnamese party leader made this statement at the recent National Assembly session in which he made a deep analysis of the socioeconomic and cultural situation of the country. The timely and strict measure being taken by Vietnamese cultural workers to prevent the impact of what is known here as “black videos” is urgent and very vital to the renovating process of the country.

Ministry of Culture Meets

*BK2107090889 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Recently, in Ho Chi Minh City, the Ministry of Culture convened a conference of directors of the Cultural and Information Services from Quang Nam-Da Nang Province southward to discuss measures for implementing the National Assembly’s resolution on tightening control over videotape showings and presentation, publication, and dissemination of music.

The conference pointed to the correctness of the decision and stressed the need to ensure scrupulous and uniform implementation by the entire society, first of all, party organizations, administrative bodies, public security units, military organs, and the cultural sector itself.

Memo on Population Activities Support Signed

*BK2107090289 Hanoi VNA in English 0740 GMT
21 Jul 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 21—A memo on a project of communications support to population activities sponsored by the United Nations Fund For Population Activities [UNFPA] in Vietnam was signed here on July 18.

Signatories were Pham Khac Lam, general director of Vietnam Television, and Raheem Sheikh, chief of the Asia-Pacific Division of UNFPA.

The project is aimed at mobilizing and educating the people to carry out family planning, thus contributing to the country’s efforts to reduce its population growth rate to 1.7 percent by 1990.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Dr Sheila Macrae [name as received], country director of UNFPA in Vietnam, and representatives of the State Commission for Population and Family Planning and the State Planning Commission.

Doan Khue Addresses Reserve Forces Conference

*BK0807044689 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1000 GMT 6 Jul 89*

[From Press Review]

[Text] Another topic extensively covered by NHAN DAN and QUAN DOI NHAN DAN is the national conference on building reserve forces for mobilization and militia and self-defense forces held in Hanoi.

Front-paged reports run by the two dailies say that the Secretariat of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers Standing Committee recently held a national conference in Hanoi on building reserve forces for mobilization and militia and self-defense forces in the new situation. Speaking at the conference, Senior Lieutenant General Doan Khue outlined the

basic contents of the directives issued by the party Central Committee Secretariat and the Council of Ministers on this subject. He clearly pointed out the importance and necessity of building reserve forces for mobilization and militia and self-defense forces in the new period of the revolution.

After dissecting the domestic and international situation, and exposing the insidious and cunning schemes of imperialists and other reactionary forces who conducted and are still conducting a multi-faceted war of sabotage to weaken and eventually to subdue our nation, Comrade Doan Khue stressed: Building these two forces is an important content of the plan to build provinces, cities, and other localities into strong defense areas and the crux of the task of building the all-people national defense system at the grass-roots level.

Council of Ministers Adjusts Rates of Allowance

*BK1207090789 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 8 Jul 89*

[Text] On 5 July the Council of Ministers issued a decision on adjusting the rates of allowance, effective 1 July, for those eligible for social programs in accordance with decision No 203-HDBT, dated 28 December 1988, as follows:

1. Living expenses equivalent to the value of 45 kg of rice for relatives of fallen combatants, or those having rendered services to the revolution, who cannot seek support from their families.
2. A supplement equivalent to the value of 40 kg of rice to the living expenses of Class-1 disabled soldiers and Class-1 ailing soldiers who live at convalescence centers or at their own homes.
3. An allowance equivalent to the value of 45 kg of rice for caretakers of Class-1 disabled soldiers and Class-1 ailing soldiers who live at their own homes.

The price of rice used for calculating the aforementioned rates of allowance must be based on the retail price of rice on the local market at the time the payment of these allowances is made.

Exemptions From Agricultural Taxes Explained

*BK2007081989 Hanoi VNA in English 0532 GMT
20 Jul 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 20—This year, all disabled and sick soldiers of the 1st grade in a four-grade classification, and the families of fallen combatants are exempted from agricultural taxes on the plot of land they work.

This was announced by the Ministry of Finance in a circular issued June 17.

According to a decision made by the Council of Ministers on May 27, all disabled and sick soldiers, the families of fallen combatants, and other people who have

rendered meritorious services to the revolution, can apply for tax exemption or reduction in case of natural disasters, illness or labour shortage.

National Import-Export Conference Convened

*BK2107091689 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] According to a Voice of Vietnam correspondent, recently in Hanoi, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations convened a national conference of import-export directors to review the implementation of the plan for the first half of 1989 and to discuss measures for materializing the tasks for the last half of the year.

Comrade Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Doan Duy Thanh presided over the conference.

Over the past 6 months, despite many difficulties due to a lack of uniform mechanisms and policies as well as shortages of capital, cash, and materials for production and purchases of export goods, the entire country has fulfilled 52 percent of the yearly export plan, or an increase of nearly 53 percent compared with the same period last year.

This is the first time the import-export sector has achieved a record high export index for the first half of the yearly plan.

Regarding import, the entire country has fulfilled more than 51 percent of the yearly plan. Due to the application of the one-tier pricing system, the volume of import products has dropped compared with the previous period but has had no adverse impact on the market.

One of the key factors leading to a rapid increase in the export index in the past 6 months rests with the fact that almost all import-export units have shifted to business accountability and as a result, have actively expanded the market and generated goods that appeal more to foreign customers. However, the first 6 months of the year witness a slow delivery of such agricultural products as unhusked peanut, coffee, processed tea, and coconut oil to Sector I.

The conference of import-export directors discussed a whole variety of measures aimed at guaranteeing satisfactory implementation of the state plan for the last half of the year as well as the whole of 1989. The conferees stressed the need to purchase more goods to respond to export requirements in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and to meet import demands, first of all demands for goods that directly support production and the state's key projects. The participants called for special measures aimed at closely monitoring the importation of foreign goods in order to protect local production.

Earnings in Foreign Currencies Reported

BK2107091889 Hanoi VNA in English 0743 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 21—In the first half of this year, Vietnam earned 607 million rubles and dollars through exports, achieving 52.8 percent of its yearly plan and increasing by 52.9 percent compared with the same period last year.

The export value of local export and import units achieved 85.8 percent of the yearly plan and soared by 71.3 percent over the corresponding period last year. Most of the export and import establishments under the Ministry of External Economic Relations, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, and the Ministry of Light Industry had their exports increased.

In the same period, the country's import represented 51.2 percent of the yearly plan, with the increase in the import of production means and the decrease in the import of consumer goods.

Over the last six months, 60 economic organizations have been given the right to directly conduct import and export activities, thus bringing the total number of such organizations to nearly 200.

Vietnam plans to obtain 1.5 billion rubles and dollars through exports by the end of this year, an increase of nearly 50 percent over 1988.

Roundup of Nationwide Agricultural Activities

BK2107053589 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 20 Jul 89

[Text] According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, more than 1,136,000 hectares of rice were planted in the recent summer-fall crop throughout the country, exceeding the planned target. To date, the provinces have harvested nearly 10 percent of the cultivated area. Initial reports by some localities have shown that the early summer-fall rice already reaped produced fairly good yields. Regarding the 10th-month crop, all northern provinces have planted rice faster than they did during the corresponding period last year, with Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Hung, Thai Binh, and many other provinces proceeding twice or three times faster than they did during the 1988 10th-month crop. Most of the provinces are now striving to finish planting the 10th-month rice crop in July.

For their part, the southern provinces in general and the Nam Bo Delta in particular have proceeded at a slower pace after overfulfilling the summer-fall acreage plan. To date, they have grown 10th-month rice on an area equal to about 50 percent of the area cultivated during the corresponding period last year, with Tien Giang, Ben Tre, and Cuu Long among the provinces falling behind schedule.

Concerning the crop pest and disease situation, in the north, stem borers have attacked rice seedlings at a pace 10 times faster than last year, with larvae causing damage to the rice seedlings destined for the main and late plantings. Meanwhile, rice leaf beetles have descended on rice seedlings and early 10th-month rice in the Bac Bo Delta and midland provinces. In some areas in Haiphong, Hai Hung, and Ha Bac, the density of this crop pest has reached the level of 1,000-2,000 insects per square meter. There have also been reports of damage to rice seedlings and 10th-month caused by leaf folders, rice leaf rollers, green leaf hoppers, and rice bugs in some other localities.

In the southern provinces of Minh Hai, Kien Giang, Hau Giang, and Cuu Long, up to 21,000 hectares of rice have been affected by brown planthoppers and white rice leafhoppers. In Long An, Hau Giang, Tien Giang, and Minh Hai Provinces, leaf folders have damaged 40,000 hectares of rice. In the coastal provinces of central Vietnam, rice plants have been attacked mostly by stem borers and aphelenchoides oryzae.

According to the forecasts of the Meteorological Department, a tropical depression that is brewing in the Eastern Sea may eventually turn into a storm and cause heavy rainfall in many areas of the Bac Bo Delta around 24-25 July. Therefore, during the next 10 days the main task of the northern provinces is to transplant the 10th-month rice crop faster so as to finish this task in July. They must also actively work to prevent and control waterlogging and take precautionary measures against heavy rains and storms. The southern provinces should quickly harvest their early summer-fall rice crop, press ahead with 10th-month rice cultivation, actively protect rice from harmful insects and diseases, and get ready to cope with a possible early arrival of flash floods on the Tien and Hau Rivers.

Thai Binh Achieves 'Record' Rice Yield

BK2107090489 Hanoi VNA in English 0737 GMT
21 Jul 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 21 (OANA-ECOVNA)—In the 1988-89 winter-spring cultivation, Thai Binh reaped five [metric] tons of paddy per hectare for a single crop, a record in the Red River Delta.

This high productivity was a combined result of careful selection of rice strains, timely cultivation, adequate irrigation, and especially the new positive factors brought about by the renovation of agricultural management.

Since the 10th Resolution of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee on Agriculture was applied in the province, the peasant families have enjoyed autonomy in farming by receiving quotas from the cooperatives while benefiting from the latter's services for their farm work. Agricultural materials have been commercialized, and the farmers can now sell their surplus produce to the state at mutually agreeable price. About 70 percent of the cultivable land is devoted to intensive cultivation of rice and the rest is offered for

bidding, therefore ensuring the best possible utilisation of the land.

For 23 years since 1966 when Thai Binh was the first province in the Red River delta to achieve the five-ton per hectare yield for two rice crops in a year, the province has always led in rice productivity.

Sericultural Sector Increases Export Index

*BK1107092389 Hanoi VNA in English 0512 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 11 - The Vietnamese sericulture has made considerable progress over the past three years, and in 1988 alone, it exported nearly 3.5 million roubles-dollars' worth of cocoons and natural silk to treble the 1986 figure.

This was reported by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry at a conference held on July 4.

Up to this year, the ministry's report says, the total acreage under mulberry throughout the country has expanded to about 7,000 ha, 2,300 ha more than 1985.

In addition, many new high-yielding silkworm and mulberry varieties have been acclimatized or cross-bred.

Besides socialist countries, the Vietnamese sericulture has exported its products to Japan, India, Thailand, Hong Kong, and the Republic of Korea, the report further says.

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31 July 1989

